

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Stamped Edition, 6d.



No. 797.—VOL. XXVIII.]

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1856.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

PEACE RATIFIED AND PROCLAIMED.

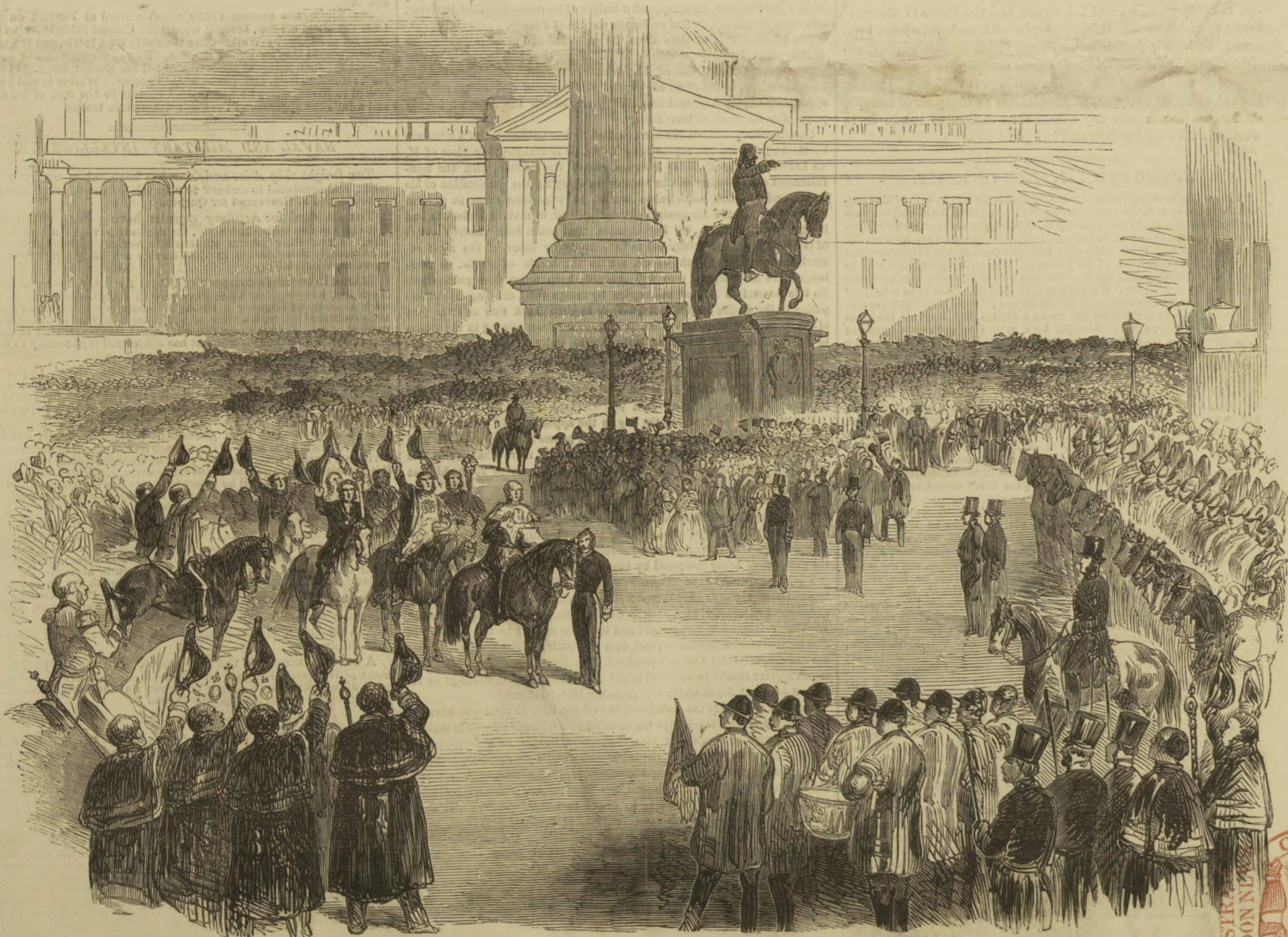
DIPLOMACY has settled the affairs of Europe, or fondly hopes so. The war is over. The Russians and the Allies have interchanged courtesies at Sebastopol. The late gallant defenders of the northern forts have opened the eyes of their late assailants, and obligingly informed them how they might and ought to have taken Sebastopol—both north and south—many months ago; how untenable the fortress appeared to the most enthusiastic of Russians after the great day of the Alma; and how, after the capture of the Malakoff Prince Gortschakoff expected nothing less than to be compelled to lay down his arms, or to be routed from the Crimea. Paris is delighted because there is peace; and because, before it was obtained, the French took the Malakoff, and the English did not take the Redan. London is not quite so much delighted, but thinks it its duty to be satisfied, or to appear so, and congregates quietly in its countless multitudes, to see a shabby procession pass from St. James's Palace to Charing-cross, Temple-bar, and the Royal Exchange; and to look at, not to hear, a herald, in mediæval and ridiculous costume, reading the proclamation announcing the fact that Russia and Great Britain are no longer foes, and that all Europe is at peace.

History will record of the war thus concluded that the British people made it: that they forced an unwilling Government to undertake it, because they believed it to be just and

necessary, and not to be avoided without peril and dishonour; that they cheerfully contributed their treasure to its prosecution; that, during its continuance they never had occasion to blush for any decay of valour or heroism among their soldiers or their officers;—that it was the most disinterested and generous war ever waged by any nation; that the questions which it desired to settle had been accumulating for many past generations, and that the settlement, which it had a right to expect would, in all human probability, have secured the peace of the European Commonwealth for many generations yet to come. History will at the same time have to record of the peace made in April, 1856, that the British people took no part in it; that it was arranged at Vienna and Paris; that the public had no opportunity of knowing its stipulations, until dissatisfaction with them was of no avail; that it was the work of a few men, nearly all of whom were irresponsible to the nations which they represented; and that, when concluded, announced, ratified, and proclaimed, there was nothing for the nation to do but to accept the fact, and to make the best of it. To say that the peace is popular, is to say that which is not. To say that the people hope that it will be of long continuance, and that they feel the national energies to be not only unimpaired, but stronger than at any previous period of our annals, is to say that which cannot but be evident to all who look around them, and who know how to gauge the feelings of their countrymen.

Having gone through the perils of the War, the nations of

Europe will now have to consider the perils of the Peace which their Governments have made for them. Statesmen who make it their rule never to see anything that is disagreeable, nor to do anything until they are compelled to do it, have pertinaciously insisted that the late war was solely undertaken in defence of the integrity of the Turkish Empire. With unimpeachable logic they argue that, the integrity of Turkey being secured, there is no longer anything to quarrel about, and that Europe, as a necessary consequence, relapses into the *status quo ante*. They have no call, no mission, no business, no right to discuss any subject but the one before them; and, having made what they deem very fair and just terms for Turkey, without having pressed with harshness or severity upon Russia, they shut up their writing-desks, wipe their pens, and bid the world make holiday. The fire, they say, has been put out. Should it burst forth in a new place hereafter, it shall be put out again—if diplomacy can do it. If not, the time has not come. They inform us that we have locked the stable-door in Turkey, and made it quite secure against any future marauders; and ask why should we lock the pantry, or see to our outer walls, when there are no thieves in any other part of the country? Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. Let there be illuminations and fireworks for the multitude, let there be snuff-boxes set with diamonds for the Plenipotentiaries and Ambassadors; and let each nation look to its own affairs and prosper in the best way it can, until another turn in the wheel of its



PROCLAMATION OF PEACE AT TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



destinies shall bring it into conflict with its neighbours." These are the sentiments that come to us from Paris and Vienna; and in which the nations of Europe, Great Britain included, are expected to acquiesce.

And herein lies the peril of the new state of affairs which will commence with the Peace of 1856. The Conference of Paris, though it tried hard, could not altogether ignore the fact that the Governments are powerless to effect any permanent or satisfactory settlement of the affairs of Europe, unless they take their subjects into their confidence; and that social Revolution may undo in one hour the work that it has taken Diplomacy years to effect. If we look around, we do not see signs of stability in the institutions of any first-rate European Power, with the single exception of Great Britain. Can it be said that France feels herself secure, when Count Walewski thought it expedient to threaten the small but independent kingdom of Belgium with the displeasure and the implied coercion of France, if the freedom of the press within Belgian boundaries were not immediately restricted? Can it be said that France is of opinion that the question of the future of Italy is decided? Can it be alleged that Sardinia does not look sooner or later to possess Lombardy and Venetia?—that Austria would not be gladly rid of the perilous honour of holding Galicia, and her share of the spoils of Poland, if she could get an equivalent?—that England has not a religious as well as a political antagonism to the Papacy and its absurd and mischievous form of government?—that France does not share this political dislike against the Pope as a temporal Sovereign, more especially if he continue to sit in Rome?—that the German people are not greatly dissatisfied with the political constitution of Germany, or the liberty and independence which are permitted to them under it, by the great military monarchies of Austria, Prussia, and Russia?—that Turkey herself does not feel aggrieved, insulted, and impoverished by the peace, to which she has been compelled to become a party?—or that Russia, having been "let off" so easily, will not lie in wait for another opportunity of recovering the prestige, the honour, and the influence which she has lost; and of forming new alliances, by which she may take vengeance upon one or both of the great Powers that were so recently opposed to her? Even whilst we write, intelligence reaches us that the Circassians, whose existence has been ignored altogether by the Plenipotentiaries of Paris, have sent a deputation to Constantinople to request the recognition of, and a guarantee for, their independence from England, France, and Turkey. Thus we may perceive that there are but too many subjects of future disunion and perplexity among the Powers of Europe. These and other things are sufficient to prove that the day is coming when it will be discovered that the Plenipotentiaries of Paris have procrastinated much—but settled little.

The people of these islands may well look back with pride upon the motives which animated them during the war; upon their exertions and upon their sacrifices, upon the bravery of their soldiers and their sailors, and upon the patriotism of the whole nation. This, and the inestimable consciousness of a great duty gallantly performed, are all the satisfaction that will be allowed them. A hundred millions of money, and the lives of many thousands of brave men, have been expended. If there be nothing more to show in return for this noble sacrifice than the memory of Alma and Inkerman, and the Peace of Paris, it is not the fault of the British people. Their hearts have been sound, and their judgment has been right, on the whole question. They have now been led into the paths of peace. We hope they will remain there. Certain it is that they will not be led out of them in support of Absolutism in any part of Europe, or for the coercion of any nation that desires to retain or to work out its own freedom and independence.

PUBLIC PROCLAMATION OF PEACE.

THE announcement on Tuesday morning that peace was to be formally proclaimed that day took the public completely by surprise. No official communication had been made on the subject, beyond the order—posted in conspicuous places—to the effect that carriages were not to pass between St. James's Palace and Temple-bar after half-past ten a.m. until the procession had performed that part of its journey. When the procession was to begin, and at what points the proclamation was to be made, were questions which no one could solve. A general notion that there was to be a "sight" of some kind was, however, soon spread through the metropolitan population, and at about ten o'clock the various streets that lead into the great trunk thoroughfares were thronged by a more than ordinary number of passengers, who took the direction of Charing-cross and St. James's Palace. Shortly before eleven o'clock the foot pavement of Pall-mall was occupied by a line of spectators, who, although not packed close enough to prevent free passage, were sufficient to indicate, a universal feeling of curiosity. The windows and balconies of the clubs and private houses in Pall-mall and the foot of St. James's-street were thronged with spectators, and two of the Royal children occupied seats at a window of the old Palace. Shortly before twelve o'clock the procession, which had assembled at St. James's, emerged into the open space in front of the Palace. The ceremony opened with three blasts of the trumpets, and then Garter King of Arms read aloud her Majesty's proclamation of the restoration of peace, at the conclusion of which the crowd gave three cheers, and this was followed by another blast of trumpets.

The procession comprised a troop of the 2nd Life Guards, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Ogilvy; the Beadles of Westminster, walking two and two, with staves; the High Constable, with his staff, on horseback; the High Bailiff and Deputy-Steward of Westminster; Knight Marshal's men, two and two; drums, Drum-Major, trumpets, and Sergeant-Trumpeter; Sir Charles Young, Garter King of Arms, on horseback; three Pursuivants, habited in their tabards—viz., Mr. J. R. Planché, Rouge Croix, riding alone, followed by Mr. H. M. Lane, Blue Mantle, and Mr. G. W. Collen, Portcullis, riding abreast and flanked on each side by three Sergeants-at-Arms, three of whom carried each a gold mace; four Heralds, also habited in tabards, riding two and two abreast—viz., Mr. W. Courthope, Somerset Herald; Mr. G. Harrison, Windsor Herald; Mr. T. W. King, York Herald; and Mr. A. W. Woods, Lancaster Herald; Mr. R. Laurie, Norroy King-of-Arms; followed by another troop of Life Guards, bringing up the rear.

When the party had reached Charing-cross, where the proclamation was read for the second time by Norroy King-of-Arms, "looking towards Whitehall," in conformity with ancient precedent, the spectacle really became striking, on account not of the personages who came to be seen and heard, but of the throngs who were there to witness them. The Trafalgar-square district was occupied by one of those dense moving masses which seem only possible on the supposition that a entire capital has turned itself out of doors.

A similar throng collected itself at the eastern end of the Strand to witness the arrival of the procession at Temple-bar. The closing of the ancient City gates upon the western visitors gave a peculiar zest to this part of the ceremony. One can't be on both sides of the gate at once, but we believe that the interchange of civilities between the intruders from the west and the jealous guardians of the east is in this fashion:—"Junior Pursuivant, after three soundings of the trumpet, gives three knocks, upon which the City Marshal asks, 'Who comes there?' The Pursuivant now explains that he and his companions are 'officers of arms' come to

publish her Majesty's "Proclamation of Peace." The cautious guardian of the gate then admit the Pursuivant alone, who presents the Queen's warrant to the Lord Mayor. When this document has been read, and the Lord Mayor has authorised the opening of the gates, the Pursuivant is conducted back to the gates by the City Marshal, who courteously tells him that they are no longer closed.

Immediately after the passage of Temple-bar the proclamation was again read to sound of trumpet, and the procession again moved on, increased by the Lord Mayor's carriage, and followed by a crowd which went on increasing in density until, after a fourth reading at Wood-street, where the Cross in Cheapside formerly stood, it reached its goal at the Royal Exchange, the most important point in the City for official publication. At that point an immense crowd had assembled in front of the Mansion House, on the esplanade before the Royal Exchange, and on the flight of steps leading into the interior of the building. The employees of the Bank of England also mustered in great force upon the roof, and two magnificent banners floated from the portico of the Mansion House, which likewise contained its complement of privileged spectators. The proclamation was read for the last time in front of the Exchange, and there the ceremony ended.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

It is said that the first appearance of the Empress in public will probably take place at the representation of the new comedy of M. Ponsard, at the Odéon, on Saturday.

The subscription started in the quatrième arrondissement, at donations not exceeding five sous, has been extended to the other arrondissements, and advances prosperously. It is said that the sum thus collected will be employed in the purchase of the Villa Marengo, in Italy (built on the field of the battle fought there), for the Prince Imperial.

The departure of M. de Morny for Russia is likely to take place sooner than was anticipated, and it is even said to be very probable that he will not wait till the closing of the Session of the Corps Législatif. The utmost magnificence is to surround all the details of this mission, and a number of young men of the first families in France are eagerly seeking the privilege of attending it as unpaid *attachés*. The Woronzoff Palace has been hired by the French Government for the temporary residence of its representative while at St. Petersburg whence, after some stay, he will proceed to Moscow, to the coronation of the Emperor. Various names, French and Russian, are mentioned to fill the posts at Paris and St. Petersburg when left vacant by MM. Orloff and De Morny, but no serious choice is yet fixed or at least known. It seems certain, however, that in both cases the title of Ambassador will be bestowed on the diplomat employed.

There is a rumour here (the truth of which we have good reasons for doubting) that Lord Cowley will be named to St. Petersburg or Constantinople, with the title of Earl, and will be succeeded here by Lord Stanhope.

The Duke and Duchess d'Albe, accompanied by the Countess de Montijo, have left Paris on their return to Madrid. Before the Duke's departure, the Emperor presented him with a magnificent carpet of Gobelin manufacture and two superb Sevres vases.

The preparations for the northern excursion of the Prince Napoleon are rapidly advancing. His Imperial Highness purposes visiting Norway, Sweden, &c. Among other rumours current, there is one that states the probability that on his return he will be accompanied by the Queen of Sweden, to be present at the baptism of the Imperial heir.

On Tuesday M. Emile de Girardin entertained the Prince and several members of the expedition at a grand farewell dinner at his hotel in the Champs Elysées.

The intention of the Emperor to visit Algeria as soon as the important occupations which require his presence here can be concluded seems every day less doubtful, and that he purposes a variety of new and even revolutionary measures in the organisation of this important colony seems no less probable. One of the plans spoken of is its erection into a separate state, with a government, an army, and a budget of its own—attached, however, of course politically, to and under the sceptre of France.

We mentioned some time since the existence and possible publication of the "Memoirs of the Comte de Molé." It appears, however, that by the will of the deceased one of his friends, a Prefect, has been charged with the arrangement of all his papers, and enjoined not to permit the appearance of these memoirs to take place within the lapse of twenty years after the death of their author.

Considerable attention has been excited by the publication of a brochure by M. Auguste Barbet, reproaching Mlle. de Kertanguy, the niece of M. de Lamennais, and M. E. D. Forgues, one of the legates, with the non-fulfilment of the desires of the testator, in delaying the publication of his correspondence and posthumous works, in producing them in a form much too expensive for general circulation, and in making omissions and interpolations therein. M. Barbet adds, that about four hundred letters of the utmost interest, addressed to Lamennais by some of the most remarkable personages of the epoch, are in the hands of Mlle. de Kertanguy and M. Forgues, who will probably keep them from publication. To this accusation M. Forgues replies by indignantly denying all participation in the wishes of Mlle. Kertanguy to keep back this and the rest of the correspondence; and declares that, so far from joining in the desire, he has commenced a *procès* against her, in order to compel the publication.

The magnificent state carriages kept at Trianon and St. Cloud have been brought out and driven about preparatory to their appearance at the christening and its attendant fêtes.

The great literary event of the day is the appearance of the "Contemplations" of Victor Hugo. These exquisite poems not only support but, if possible, add to the fame of the poet, and more than fulfil the hopes and expectations of the public, raised as they were to the highest pitch.

It appears that Béranger—who has completed a new volume of songs, said to be superior to those already known, but which are not during his life to be published—disclaims entirely the authorship of the song lately printed abroad, and translated into several of the English journals, under the pretence of being composed by him.

The subscription to the "Cours Familier de Littérature" of M. de Lamar-tine advances rapidly. The second number contains a brilliant biographical and critical notice of Mlle. Emile de Girardin. The "Contemplations" of Victor Hugo has also a short and touching address to the memory of this most remarkable woman; and, at a late sitting of the Société des Gens des Lettres, M. Jules Lecomte proposed that the next literary study for which a prize should be accorded might select her life and writings as its subject—a proposition which will probably be carried out.

The new works for the embellishment of the Bois de Boulogne advance rapidly. Close to Longchamps the erection of a splendid cascade is making great progress, and a sort of pleasure-ground, termed Le Pré-Catelan, is about to be established, near the lakes, and close by a monument erected to the memory of the Provençal troubadour of the thirteenth century, about whom an interesting legend, too long for our present space, is related. This piece of ground is to form a perfect fairy-land—à la mode Française, bien entendu—where the charms of verdure, fountains, trees, and flowers are to be heightened and perfected by the presence of an orchestra, day theatres, billiard-rooms, lotteries, restaurants, shows, &c.—an Eden, in short, as it is understood by Parisian Eves of the nineteenth century.

On Saturday appeared the new work of Halévy, "Valentine d'Aubigny," at the Opéra Comique. The music is charming; two or three of the

morceaux, the first air sung by Bataille, and the trio of the latter, among others, are full of grace and melody. The plot is awkward and improbable, the part played by the heroine being destitute of all vraisemblance, and the conclusion lame; but the beauty of the music, and the way in which the work is rendered by Bataille (despite certain distressing grimaces in his lovemaking scenes), Mockler, and Mdlles. Duprez and Lefebvre, carry it through successfully.

AMERICA.

The Royal Mail steam-ship *Asia*, which sailed from New York on the 16th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Monday evening.

Just as the *Asia* was leaving, accounts reached New York, by way of Havannah, reporting that the steamer then due from California had news of the defeat of General Walker's army by the army of Costa Rica, with a very heavy loss of men. In other respects the political news now to hand is not important.

In the Senate a petition, presented by General Lane, relative to the memorial of the members of the Free State Legislature of Kansas to be admitted into the Union, which the Senate had refused, had, after a lively discussion, been laid on the table.

The Post-office committee has reported a bill to encourage steam navigation. The bill authorises the Secretary of the Navy to contract with Messrs. Vanderbilt and Livingstone for carrying mails between Southampton and New York, or some other port in the United States, in steamers suitable for defensive purposes, for a term of six years; the compensation not to be more than that allowed by the British Government to the Cunard line.

The indisposition of Mr. Clay had prevented the continuance of the discussion on the Kansas question, and the Senate had gone to Executive Session.

The President had reported that Messrs. Howland and Aspinwall had received 2,250,000 dols., and Hargous Brothers the balance of the 3,000,000 dols. payable to Mexico under the terms of the Mesilla Valley Treaty.

The New York Legislative Senate had agreed upon an extension, but the Governor of the Assembly would not consent to follow the example, and the House adjourned *sine die*.

The Know-Nothings and Free-soil men had carried both branches of the Connecticut Legislature.

It is reported from Washington that Mr. Stoecke, the Russian Minister, had got himself into difficulties by engaging the services of some eminent surgeons for the Russian army; and, now that peace is established, informing them that their services are not wanted.

THE WAR IN COSTA RICA.—DEFEAT OF THE FILIBUSTERS.

The *Panama Star* of April 8, received by the West India mail, contains the intelligence collected on the coast of Central America by the steamer *Emilie*, which sailed from Panama on the 1st March for the ports of Punta Arenas, La Union, Acajutla, and San José de Guatemala, touching at Chiriqui, and returned from the same on the 31st of March.

On her upward voyage to Punta Arenas she found the whole republic of Costa Rica in great excitement about the war to be carried on against Walker and his party. The port of Punta Arenas was full of troops, and the command of the same was given to Baron Bulow. The principal army, under the command of General Mora, was about 3000 strong: it was accompanied by President Mora in person, and was marching towards the frontiers of Nicaragua. The whole number of troops to be levied was to amount to 9000 men; and, besides, a loan of 100,000 dols. amongst the natives was decreed. The war appeared to be very popular, and daily enlistments of volunteers were spoken of. Amongst the foreigners a tender of their services was made to the Government.

At San Salvador it was ascertained that 400 Filibusters, under the command of Colonel Schlesinger, and well fortified by the walls and fences of the "hacienda de Santa Rosa," had been charged and entirely defeated by 500 Costa Rica troops, under the command of General Mora. A private letter, dated Liberia, 25th, written by a foreigner at headquarters, confirms this important event, and expresses confidence in the success of the war in favour of the Costa Rica army, as the troops are in good condition and full of courage, and wish to be led against the Filibusters. In about eight days the army was to pass the frontiers, and enter the State of Nicaragua. More than twenty prisoners, consisting principally of Irish and Germans, were in the hands of the Costa Ricans; they were to be tried by a court-martial, and most probably all would be shot. Walker had not received his expected reinforcements, and, it is said, wanted provisions. General Cabanas has deserted him, and written him a very short letter, enjoining him speedily to "clear out."

An express that arrived in Punta Arenas on the 26th states that ninety of Walker's men were found dead, and others are supposed to have perished in the woods. Nineteen prisoners were tried by court-martial and shot.

The Nicaraguan steamer *Cortes*, which arrived at Panama on the 7th from San Juan del Sur, brought word that Colonel Schlesinger was to be tried for cowardice by Walker after the Santa Rosa battle, and it was generally supposed that he would be shot. During the time of the steamer's stay at St. Juan many of the men enlisted for Walker, hearing of his bad luck, refused to land, and are now in Panama. Walker is said to have retired to Rivas, where he has fortified himself to the best of his ability, and awaits the approach of the Central American troops.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE freight-ship *Alice and Ann* has been taken up by Government, and appointed to embark 2000 barrels of powder from Woolwich, to be shipped at Gravesend for Quebec.

THE standard for Artillery recruits having been raised to five feet eight inches indiscriminately, instructions have been issued for the recall of recruiting parties stationed in various provincial localities; consequently detachments in that service are daily arriving at headquarters, Woolwich.

MAJOR BIDDULPH's company of Royal Artillery, under orders for Australia, have been for some days past in daily attendance at Woolwich Arsenal, undergoing a course of laboratory instructions prior to their embarkation, with a view of obtaining a correct knowledge of the method of preparing the new fuse and signal rockets. This is the first corps of Artillery the Government has considered it necessary to station in that colony.

HER MAJESTY's state yacht *Victoria and Albert*, Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman, left Portsmouth on Saturday afternoon on a cruise, it is said, to Lisbon and Madeira. She is expected to return in eight days. We some time since reported the probability of her Majesty paying Lisbon a visit this summer.

HER MAJESTY has been graciously pleased to signify her intention of reviewing the army of the Crimea on the return of the troops. A review on a grand scale will take place at Aldershot early in June, when it is expected that upwards of 30,000 men—cavalry, infantry, and artillery—will be present. This will be succeeded by reviews at Colchester, Penenden Heath, and Barham Downs; and siege operations on an extensive scale will conclude the season on Chatham lines.

In consequence of the very great number of troops which are expected to arrive in England during the month of May, and the barrack accommodation being extremely limited, it is intended to establish camps on Southsea Common, Penenden Heath (near Maidstone), Barham Downs (near Canterbury), and another near Plymouth, at which the various regiments will be located until they are reduced to the peace establishment of 1000 rank and file each. The camp at Penenden Heath will be exclusively for cavalry. It is not intended to erect huts, the camps being only temporary, and the men will be under canvas.

ALL the Coastguardmen and seamen riggers are to be discharged from the fleet.

A GENERAL muster of the men employed in the shipping department of Woolwich Dockyard took place on Monday morning, for the purpose of commencing a slight reduction in that establishment, and examining the claims for superannuation.

SUPPOSED REMAINS OF THE "PACIFIC."—Advices have been received at Lloyd's, under date New York, April 12, that, on the 8th instant, the *Alliance*, Captain Cole, when in lat. 37. lon. 72, fell in with some floating pieces of wreck, amongst which was the top part of a steam-vessel's paddle-box, of a large size, similar to the *Pacific's*. It was painted black, except in one part, where a new board had been put in; and it is suspected that this is part of what remains of the missing vessel. A strong gale prevented Captain Cole from securing the paddle-box.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY AND NAVY.—It is now said that there will be no levy of recruits until the autumn, and then only at the nominal peace proportion of five per 1000 registered souls. It is not intended to keep up the effective strength of line battalions at more than 600 men. The state of Russian finances, sorely tested by the war, demand the utmost economy in the military and naval departments for the time being. In the latter there will be a saving nearly equal to two-fifths, in consequence of the destruction of the two divisions of the Black Sea fleet and the expensive arsenals of Sebastopol.

THOUGHTS IN THOROUGHFARES.

A VARIETY of thoughts, none of them of a very serious nature, must have occupied the minds of those who happen to be in the thoroughfares along which the procession passed, for the Proclamation of Peace to the metropolis. In the first place it must have occurred to many that it was rather a superfluous operation to tell that which everybody knew, and which, if it had not been already known, would have been very imperfectly heard by the few who were near enough to catch the sound of the voice of the officer of arms, shaken about as he was on a rather fidgety horse, and perplexed as he appeared to be with his tabard. The proceedings of the other day are reported in the same language, almost word for word, as will be found in the Annual Register for 1814, when the ceremony is said to have taken place "with all its ancient and accustomed solemnities." Then, as now, "the Junior Officer of Arms, coming out of the rank between two trumpeters rode up to the gate of Temple-bar, and, after the trumpeters had sounded thrice, knocked with a cane." Then, as now, the City Marshal, who knew perfectly well what it was all about, affected ignorance, by asking, "Who comes here?" and then, as now, received an answer which he knew he was going to receive, and which knowledge rendered question and answer alike superfluous. Then the pursuivant was admitted alone—as was the case fifty years ago—and the gates were shut after him; while he was introduced to the Lord Mayor, who was supposed to satisfy himself, from the nature of the pursuivant's business, whether it would be desirable to open the gates and allow him to go back and join his friends outside, or to shut him in, and keep the others out of the City. Then, as in 1814, a warrant was handed to the Lord Mayor, which he is reported to have read on the spot; but, as he had probably perused it some hours before in the morning papers, it is most likely that he gave a theatrical reading of the document, and glanced at it just as a Prince in a play scans the property scroll that describes to him in great dabs of black paint the plans of the conspirators. Then the Lord Mayor told the Marshal to open the gates, which was opened by somebody who was quite out of hearing of the order, and who would have opened them all the same if the Lord Mayor had forgotten his part and omitted to speak the words; for the "cue" for opening the gates was the approach of the pursuivant. Then the City Marshal said, "Sir, the gates are open,"—an observation that might have been spared as a most unnecessary reflection on the pursuivant's powers of perception, for the gates were immediately before his eyes, and he could not have kept the latter open, without seeing that the former were open also. The only variation in the programme of the other day from that of 1814 gave the preponderance of absurdity to the former, for by some misunderstanding the gates at Temple-bar were open when the procession arrived, and, instead of walking straight into the city, the procession stopped on purpose to be shut out, so that somebody had the trouble of closing the gates, in order that somebody—perhaps the same person—might have the trouble of opening them again. If there had been any reality in the proceeding, and the civic authorities had only been apprised of the pursuivant's approach by his knocking at the gate, it is clear that he must have stopped there for ever, as he evidently declined to knock until somebody had come to the gate for the purpose of shutting it. Persons of a thoughtful turn of mind may amuse themselves by speculating on the reason for reading the proclamation at the corner of Chancery-lane and the end of Wood-street, instead of at the corner of Farringdon-street, the space near the General Post-office, or any other point on the line of procession where there might be room for a large audience. There is, however, the old and unanswerable official reason for selecting the narrow and inconvenient places alluded to, as the most worthy of being honoured by a direct communication of the conclusion of peace; for in 1814 they were the favoured spots, and fifty years hence, if a similar occasion should arise, the Minister of the day, if he resemble the Minister of this, will order the proclamation of peace to be made "with the accustomed solemnity at the usual places." The friends of the Government must rejoice that Temple-bar has not been taken down in compliance with the calls that have been repeatedly made for its removal, for if there had been no Temple-bar to knock at, there would have been a great Ministerial difficulty in determining what to do in the absence of precedent, and all the resources of the "Circumlocution Office" would have been required to account for its not being done, and to assist generally in discovering how not to do it. The present may be the last occasion upon which it can possibly be done, for the materials are rapidly disappearing out of which such absurdities can be concocted; and, indeed, it is rather remarkable that in these days of expiring Beadledom, a sufficient number of individuals could be found to walk "two and two with staves" in the character of "Beadles of Westminster." The walk they took the other day must have suggested the idea of "Beadledom on its last legs" to many who witnessed it. Official programmes may speak of these things as "solemnities," but common sense regards them as "farces;" and if they appear to be received with public applause, it is only because jeers and cheers are very much alike in the mouths of the populace.

The thoroughfares have recently displayed bills offering a reward for the apprehension of Foschini, the alleged assassin, with whom it has hitherto appeared possible to do everything except take him into custody. According to newspaper paragraphs there have been plenty of eyes upon him, many persons have been watching him, but nobody has thought of apprehending him. A few days ago the reporters threw him into the Thames, found his body, and got a coroner to sit upon him; nor was it until policeman 69 L made his appearance at the inquest and proved Foschini to be somebody else that people were persuaded he had not committed suicide. It is strange that, while so many are said to be watching the right man, others should be employed in taking into custody the wrong one—a piece of misplaced activity which has already kept one unfortunate foreigner thirty-six hours in custody, because he could not speak the English language and the police on duty could speak no other.

A good deal of philosophy is required just now in the public streets to keep one's temper under the variety of importunities to which one is exposed from juveniles desirous of entering into all sorts of business transactions with passing strangers. Men who never smoke are continually beset with entreaties to purchase cigar-lights from urchins who, possibly, while they are dazzling your eyes with one hand are picking your pocket with the other. If you get into an omnibus to escape the evil in one form it pursues you in another, for the air and light will probably be obstructed by the *Morning Taper*, in the hands of a boy who fills the whole of the window with a bundle of low-priced newspapers. The spread of intelligence is no doubt a very excellent thing in its way; but information, however cheap and early, is rather unwelcome when it is flourished about in a damp state, before one's face, at the corner of every street and at the door of every public vehicle. Street trading is really assuming dimensions which threaten to leave little room for anything else; and if it continues to grow, as it has recently done, it will drive us all off the pavement. It is difficult to walk any distance without being invited to surrender

one's foot into the hands of a member of the so-called Shoeblack Brigade—a body which only carries out its military title by the personal encounters of its members. From what passed at a meeting of the friends of Ragged Schools last week, presided over by the Earl of Shaftesbury, it appeared that the "Shoeblack Brigade" is only seven strong; and we must presume, therefore, that the hordes of young barbarians in red, yellow, and other miscellaneous colours, are for the most part irregulars. There is not very much in a name; but perhaps those who are accustomed to talk of the street shoeblacks as a "brigade" will be surprised to learn that "a brigade is the union of several squadrons or battalions under the command of a Colonel, who has also the rank of Brigadier-General." Whether the Shoeblack Brigade aspire to military rank may be doubtful; but that they are all desirous to take the command of the first foot they can lay their hands on is a fact that is every day brought home to the experience of

A WALKING PHILOSOPHER.

THE COURT.

The Privy Council on Monday, the Drawingroom on Tuesday, the State Concert on Wednesday, almost nightly visits to the Opera and theatres, and the grand ceremony of laying the first stone of the Wellington College this day (Saturday), have made up a series of engagements in one short week almost unexampled in Court life at the present early period of the season. At the Council proclamations were issued announcing the Peace, and appointing Sunday, the 4th inst. (tomorrow), as a day of thanksgiving.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Drawingroom, and in the evening had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the French Ambassador and the Countess de Persigny, the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, the Earl and Countess of Lichfield, and Admiral Juvien de la Gravière (French Imperial Navy). Later the Queen and the Royal party honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Wednesday Prince Albert presided at a meeting of the Commission of the Patriotic Fund, at the Palace of Westminster. The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred visited Messrs. Clowes's printing establishment. The Princess Royal and the Princess Alice went to Westminster Abbey. The Queen took a carriage airing, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, and in the evening gave a state concert.

On Thursday her Majesty and the Prince went in semi-state to a private view of the Exhibition of the Royal Academy.

THE DRAWINGROOM.

The Queen held a Drawingroom on Tuesday, at St. James's Palace. The Court was very numerously attended, the presentation of ladies exceeding 250.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, arrived from Buckingham Palace at a quarter past two o'clock, and shortly afterwards entered the Throne-room, attended by a brilliant retinue of Lords and Ladies of the Royal Household. The Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary accompanied her Majesty, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar was also present.

The Queen wore a train of white moiré antique, trimmed with bunches of roses and white blonde. The petticoat of white satin, trimmed with bunches of roses and white blonde, to correspond with the train. Her Majesty's head-dress was formed of diamonds, flowers, and feathers.

The Duchess of Cambridge wore a train of grey satin, trimmed with black lace and bouillonnés of crépe, tulle, and satin, and black velvet ribbon. The petticoat, a fall of black lace over grey satin, trimmed with satin ribbon, and black velvet to correspond with the train. The stomacher was covered with sapphires and diamonds. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was formed of a pearl tiara, white feathers, and black lace lappets.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a train of rich blue glacé silk, trimmed with satin ribbon, tulle, and pink roses. The body trimmed to match, and the stomacher ornamented with diamonds. The petticoat was blue tulle, over rich glacé silk, trimmed with buffons of tulle, satin ribbon, and pink roses. The necklace was pearls. Her Royal Highness had on her head a tiara of diamond stars, and also white feathers and lappets.

The foreign Ambassadors and Ministers having been introduced, several presentations took place. The general circle were next ushered into the Royal presence.

THE STATE CONCERT.

The Queen gave a concert on Wednesday evening at Buckingham Palace, at which Mesdames Novello, Viardot, Bosio, and Didiée, Signori Gardoni and Ronconi, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formés, assisted. The foreign Ministers and a party of the nobility and gentry were invited, to the number of about 370. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, and the Duke of Cambridge, passed from the White Drawing-room at half-past nine o'clock, and entered the Grand Saloon, which was prepared for the concert. The company assembled in the Picture Gallery followed the Queen and the Royal party into the saloon, and the concert commenced.

Refreshments were served to the company between the parts; and at the close of the performance supper was served in the State Dinner-room.

His Excellency the Ambassador of France and the Countess Persigny arrived in town from Paris on Monday night.

COURT DRESSES AT HER MAJESTY'S DRAWINGROOM.

The Drawingroom of the 29th ult. afforded more ample scope even than that of the 10th for the display of richness and elegance of attire on the part of ladies privileged to pay their respects to the Sovereign.

One of the most elegant dresses observed on the occasion, and which was worn by a youthful bride, was composed of flounces of Brussels lace over tulle and white silk, the flounces being looped up with bouquets of white primroses, heath, and lilies of the valley. The corsage was ornamented with lace and flowers to correspond, and had braces crossing in the middle which terminated in two long lappet-like ends. The train was of white moiré antique, bordered with a flounce of Brussels lace. Head-dress of flowers, and lace to correspond, feathers and jewels.

A not less attractive dress had a double skirt of Brussels lace, alternating with skirts of tulle, ornamented with fringe and a Greek pattern of lilac. The skirts looped up at intervals with bouquets of lilac and roses. The train was of white silk trimmed with lilac and roses, the same flowers being used in the coiffure. This dress was remarkably original and striking, without bordering on the eccentric.

A very rich costume was composed of alternate flounces of pink crape over pink silk, and white silk, edged with fringe and blonde, and trimmed with a profusion of Venetian shells; some of which were formed into a fringe to ornament the corsage, and border the lappet-like ends of the cape. The train was of white silk, lined with pink, and having a deep border of pink.

A very gorgeous dress was of blue silk, having three flounces brocaded in white velvet, and edged with a deep fringe of blue and white. Train of blue silk, brocaded to correspond, and trimmed with fringe and lace. Head-dress of feathers and lace.

Another costly dress, and worn by a lady of the highest rank, was composed of a rich white silk, brocaded in bunches of roses of cerise satin and silver; the dress was trimmed with several rows of point lace, each row being surmounted by a string of pearls and a quilling of cerise ribbon. Train of brown satin, trimmed likewise with point lace, and having bows of cerise ribbon; the centre of each bow being studded with an ornament of diamonds and rubies. Head-dress—feathers, point lace, and diamonds.

A skirt of white tulle, having several flounces edged with blonde, was otherwise trimmed with puffs of tulle and ivory. The train was of green crape over green silk, and was ornamented with puffs of tulle and silver wheat-ears.

A dress of white silk had three flounces bordered with blue, and trimmed with rows of narrow black velvet. Train of blue moiré antique, trimmed with tulle, blonde, and black velvet. Head-dress, a double circlet wreath of blue and white flowers.

A skirt of grey moiré antique was richly trimmed with point-lace and crimson satin ribbon. Train of the same materials, and trimmed exactly to correspond.

A Court dress, appropriate for half-mourning, deserves particular attention. It had three flounces of white tulle over white silk, each flounce being edged with blonde, and ornamented with several rows of black velvet, and looped up at intervals with bouquets of white roses intermixed with black velvet. The corsage had the cape lappets, already described, edged with black velvet and white blonde, with a bouquet of white roses in the centre. Train of white moiré antique, ornamented with white roses and blonde and black velvet. Head-dress, the double circlet of white roses intermixed with black velvet and diamonds.

Among the presentation or *débutantes'* dresses the following deserve notice.

White tulle with three flounces, each flounce having four rows of white satin ribbon and an edging of blonde. The train was of white silk, bor-

dered with puffs of tulle and ribbon, and the corsage similarly ornamented. Pearl ornaments and wreath of white lilac.

Skirt of white tulle formed into innumerable puffs, and trimmed with white roses, and lilies of the valley. Train of white moiré antique, edged with a peculiar shell-like trimming composed of tulle and ribbon, relieved at intervals with bouquets of white roses and lilies of the valley.

Three flounces of white tulle edged with blonde, and ornamented with rows of white satin ribbon; the flounces looped-up with white camellias. Train of white silk, trimmed with tulle, ribbon, and camellias. Head-dress, camellias and pearls.

(For the above information we are indebted to the courtesy of Madame EINSTEIN DE VY, 78, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square.)

THE NAVAL REVIEW.

We this week resume our illustration of the great event of last week, which has already been fully described by our own Correspondents; so that it will be only requisite to detail the scenes and incidents sketched by our Artists.

THE PIVOT-SHIPS "RODNEY" AND "LONDON."

These sailing vessels of war, the *Rodney* and *London*, of ninety guns each, were moored as pivot-ships to the E.N.E. of the Nab Light at about four cables' length apart. Other vessels for the same purpose were moored one mile west of Cowes.

THE GUN-BOATS.

Twelve months ago scarcely one of the gun-boat vessels was in existence. The majority have been ordered and completed within the last six months. The first class of gun-boats is composed of screw-ships of 200 feet in length, and carrying six long 68-pounders, provided with engines of 360-horse power, and a crew of one hundred men. This class is intended as subdivisional ships. The second class are about 150 feet long, and carry four 68-pounders—are provided with engines of 200-horse power, and the crew numbers eighty hands. The third class are about 100 feet long, of 60-horse power engines, armed with one 68-pounder pivot-gun, one 32-pounder pivot-gun, and two brass howitzers (24-pounders) on the broadside. The fourth class is also a useful flotilla for very shallow streams and close in-shore service. It comprises vessels of about 80 feet long, the engines averaging 20-horse power; each boat carrying two 32-pounder pivot-guns amidships, the crew usually numbering thirty-six hands, exclusive of officers. These boats are very little larger than the small steamers which ply upon the Thames, though they are certainly considerably broader, in order to admit of working the guns without danger to the craft. Their draught of water, with stores, ammunition, provisions, and guns on board, does not exceed from three and a half to four feet. The whole flotilla is provided with high-pressure locomotive boilers—the place necessarily devoted to the machinery rendering this expedient absolutely imperative, to economise the limited area at the disposal of the engineers. Yet, small as the horse-power appears, the speed of the fleet of gun-vessels is by no means contemptible; the slowest average from 7 to 8 knots, and the swiftest from 9 to 11½.

The illustration at page 463 shows the signal for the gun-boat attack on Southsea Castle.

THE FLEET ROUNDING THE PIVOT-SHIPS AT THE NAB.

This scene, from the importance of the vessels engaged in the manoeuvre, was one of the most interesting events of the day. Her Majesty in her yacht, the *Victoria and Albert*, having led the fleet in two lines out to the Nab, stopped and took up her station ahead of and between the two moored pivot-ships, *Rodney* and *London*. On the fleet arriving at this point, headed respectively by the *Duke of Wellington* and the *Royal George*, the one heading the port and the other the starboard division, it turned at the head of the pivot-ships, and made back in the same order to their original moorings at the Spit. The rounding was accomplished with the greatest ease and dexterity, the crews of the vessels at the same time manning the rigging and cheering, affording a most imposing sight.

Our Sketch of this event was made on board her Majesty's ship *Lightning*, Lieut. Campbell; and we take this opportunity of returning our thanks to that gentleman for his courtesy and attention to our Artist.

DANCE ON BOARD THE "CESAR."

In the evening of the day of the Review there were several festive commemorations of the event in the town of Portsmouth and in the fleet. In heartiness and real enjoyment, probably, neither of these festivities exceeded the dance on board H.M.S. *Cesar*, Captain John Robb, whose amiable wife and her young lady friends joined the officers in the gay scene which our Artist has depicted. Under the influence of a well appointed orchestra and an invigorating sea-breeze the dance assumed an energy and spirit beyond that which usually characterises such recreations on shore.

ILLUMINATION OF THE FLEET.

No notice of an intention to illuminate was given in the Admiralty's programme, and consequently thousands had left on their return to distant homes before the ships made this grand and brilliant demonstration. This was effected by simultaneously lighting up the yards and portholes with blue lights.

At nine precisely, a signal-rocket was thrown up, when the horizon, which had previously been completely shrouded in darkness, became brilliantly illuminated with blue-lights from six miles length of British ships of war. The suddenness gave great effect to the grandeur of the scene. Only imagine all the ships of war illuminated with blue-lights at each yard-arm, and the battle lanterns placed in every porthole, and then some idea may be formed of the extreme beauty of the display. From nine to ten rockets were sent up thickly from the ships, and rained a golden shower. The display lasted twenty minutes.

The establishment of Mr. J. J. Galt, the naval outfitter, was elegantly illuminated in the evening. The Messrs. Emanuel had also a very neat device in gas with V. R., &c.

THE QUEEN'S YACHT PASSING FORT MONCKTON.

As the Royal yacht steamed past the walls, the Saluting Battery fired in her honour, and then the people in the embrasures of the forts, on the slopes of the esplanade from Portsmouth to Southsea, from Blockhouse Fort to Monckton, crowded together to watch her. The approach to the Spit Buoy was marked by breathless expectation shown in every face turned anxiously towards the fast-sailing yacht and her attendant steamers. As she rounded the buoy and dashed out into the open water of Spithead, the fleet gave forth their salute—their guns roaring out from deck to deck, from ship to ship—until the air was obscured by the smoke, and the fleet was involved in a cloud of vapour.

The Queen's yacht, emerging from the surrounding smoke, proceeded rapidly past Fort Monckton, meeting everywhere the same enthusiastic reception, and, having rounded into a position to return down the centre line, entered the squadron of gun-boats, disposed in double rows on each side of her course, and majestically proceeded on her way.

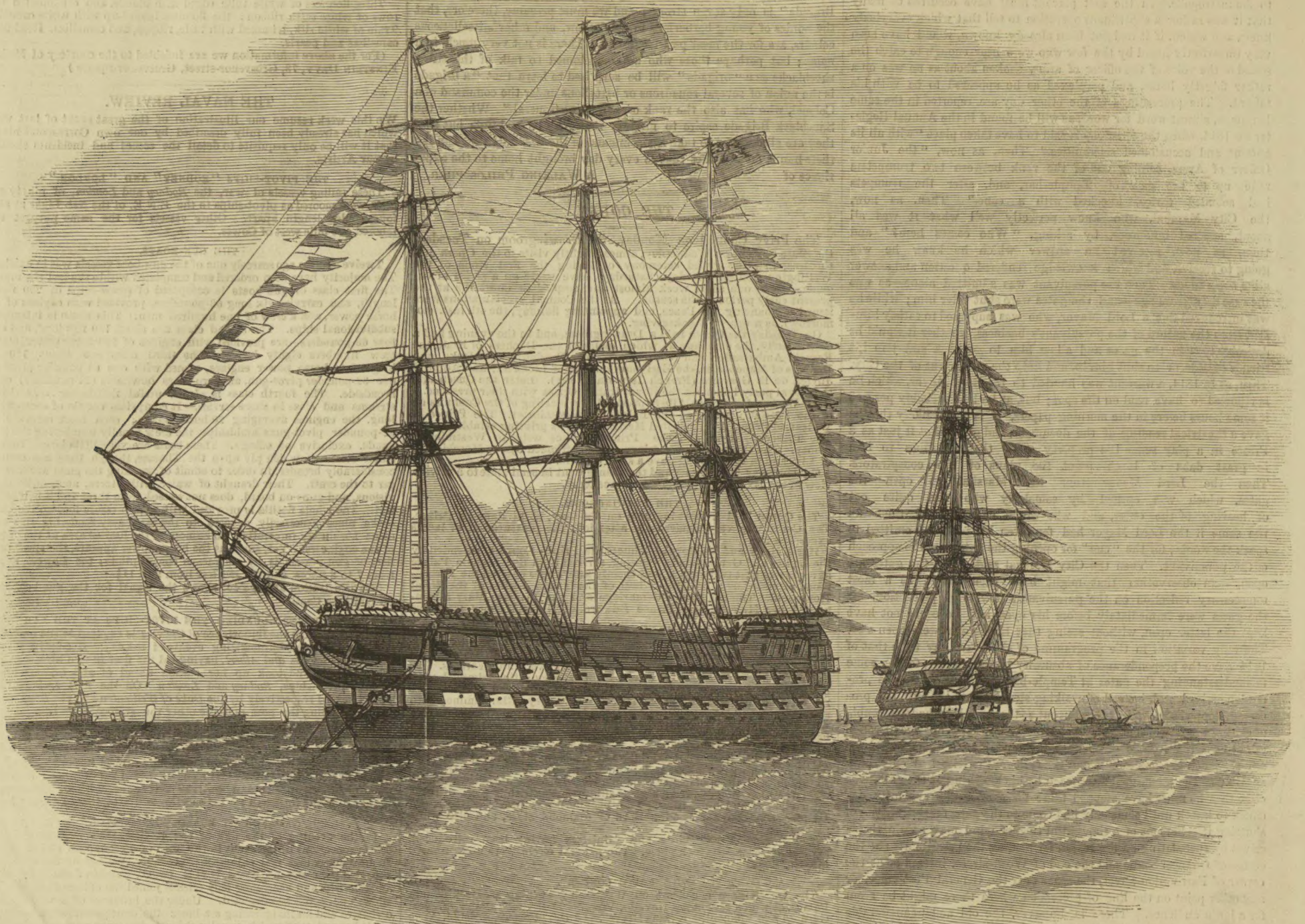
EMBARKATION OF THE QUEEN AT PORTSMOUTH.

Her Majesty's train arrived at the Royal Clarence Victualling-yard at five minutes to twelve o'clock. The Court immediately embarked on board the State barge, and was steered by Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman to the *Victoria and Albert*, lying in the harbour stream. Her Majesty was accompanied in the yacht by Sir Wm. Parker, Sir Edmund Lyons, the Marquis Townshend, Admiral De la Gravière, and Mr. Osborne, Secretary of the Admiralty. After a short interval, the transporter stationed on the Pier Battery announced the approach of the Royal yacht. The guns on the Platform Battery instantly confirmed the intelligence, and in a few minutes the *Victoria and Albert* rapidly steamed out of the harbour, and glided swiftly towards Spithead, amid the enthusiastic acclamations of the assembled multitude. The bands ashore and aloft striking up the National Anthem, while every vessel capped her ensign.

It may be interesting to our readers to know how the mercantile fleet were placed in the tidal basin of the Southampton Docks, preparatory to starting for Spithead to witness the Review. The several ships were moored to the dock-quays, ready for starting, which they did in regular turn, according to draught of water. The entire tonnage of the 26 vessels amounted to 27,848 tons.

At the review there was exhibited, on board her Majesty's ship *Vulcan*, by the inventor and patentee, Commander Beadon, R.N., the model of a vessel of new and peculiar construction. It is formed with a moveable under-water bow of a conical form, to which is applied a screw-propeller. The stern of the vessel is constructed in such a manner that the propeller axis assumes an angle to the keel, and admits of the propeller being used to propel, or to propel and steer, and when sailing can be simply used as a rudder. By reason of the peculiar form of the under part of the vessel, combined with the use of the conical bow and conical propeller, the vessel is capable of moving at a far greater speed than can be accomplished by any other form of construction, accompanied with the other modes of propelling; and is also capable of sailing very fast. It gave great satisfaction to the naval gentlemen and all who saw it on board. Commander Beadon is building a vessel on this plan for exhibition on the *Serpentine*.

In a small portion of our impression of last week the Floating Bridge Illustration was designated "at Portsea," instead of Portsmouth.



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—THE PIVOT-SHIPS "RODNEY" AND "LONDON."—DRAWN BY E. WEEDON.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—THE SIGNAL FOR THE GUN-BOAT ATTACK.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—THE FLOTILLA OF GUN-BOATS OFF THE MOTHERBANK.—DRAWN BY R. LEITCH.—(SEE PAGE 437.)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 4.—First Sunday after Ascension.
 MONDAY, 5.—Bonaparte died, 1821.
 TUESDAY, 6.—St. John the Evangelist.
 WEDNESDAY, 7.—Easter Term ends. Russians invade Turkey, 1828.
 THURSDAY, 8.—Marshal St. Arnaud arrives at Constantinople, 1854.
 FRIDAY, 9.—Sir Joseph Banks died, 1820.
 SATURDAY, 10.—Oxford Term ends. Battle of Lodi, 1796.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE.
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 10, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1 25	1 50	2 10	2 35	3 15	3 35	4 20

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ERRATA.—The pictures of "The Hayfield," and "Simon and Iphigenia," engraved in our Journal of last week, are from the National Exhibition; and "The Brook," and "The Storm—Fishing-boats running into harbour," are from the Suffolk-street Exhibition; although otherwise designated beneath the Engravings. In the text, their location is correctly described.

OPENING OF

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY

On SATURDAY NEXT, MAY 10, will be published,

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OF

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The Engravings of the Great Naval Review will be continued in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for SATURDAY, May 10, and 17; Including the following Scenes and Incidents:—

Visitors embarking to View the Fleet. Sketched by R. Leitch.
 Promenade on Southsea Common. S. Read.
 Incidents in the Crowd. Drawn by Phiz.
 The Grand Stand, Southsea Beach. R. Landells.
 The Queen's Arrival at the Royal Yacht. R. Landells.
 The Royal Yacht Passing the Fleet at Spit Buoy. R. Leitch.
 The Queen's Yacht Leaving Portsmouth Harbour. E. Landells.
 The Gunboat Attack. R. Leitch.
 Gun-boats Passing in Line round the *Royal George* and *Duke of Wellington*. J. W. Carmichael.
 Large Picture Map of the Baltic. (Four pages)
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1856.

"Her Majesty's Opposition" has conferred a signal favour on "her Majesty's Government." The favour was not intended; but is, perhaps, all the more agreeable on that account to the fortunate recipients. If Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli had designed to consolidate the Ministerial party, and to transform it from a disorderly rabble, which it was fast becoming, into a strong and united phalanx, they could scarcely have adopted means more effectual than they did. We shall not attempt in this place to recapitulate the arguments of Mr. Whitehead and of those who agreed with him in maintaining that the fall of Kars was principally, if not wholly, attributable to the wilful neglect or to the ill-temper of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe; or of those who asserted that the Ministers, in shielding and defending their Ambassador, had made themselves responsible for his conduct, and transferred from his Lordship's head to their own the censure of Parliament and the country. It will suffice for us to record that public opinion concurs in the verdict which the House of Commons has pronounced on the question; not so much on account of the Ministry, for whose fate no one professes any particular anxiety, but for that of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe—who was virtually on his trial—and who has been honourably, we may say triumphantly, acquitted. There was a probability that the dissatisfaction widely felt on many points, connected not only with the progress of the war, but with the patching up of the peace, might have concentrated itself upon this particular question of Kars, and led to a decision more in accordance with ill-temper than with justice, but this risk has been happily avoided, and the Asiatic campaign from first to last has been discussed on its merits. The verdict satisfies most people that substantial justice has been done both to the Ambassador whose conduct was originally impugned, and to the Ministry which threw its egis over him. For the future we suppose we shall hear no more of Kars in Parliamentary warfare.

The Ministers, warned by this example of the necessity of union among their supporters, will do well to find some subject of domestic and social interest by which they may be enabled to keep their rebellious party together. They will, doubtless, achieve a victory in both Houses on the general subject of the Peace, on which they have "thrown down the gauntlet" to their opponents; but there are other matters for the consideration of Parliament than those which relate to our foreign policy—more especially that portion of it which is concluded by the treaty of Paris, and at which it is

now useless to cavil. If the Ministers do not inspire general confidence on some great home question, the army of their supporter will again become a rabble, and Parliament itself will have to answer to the country for a disorganisation which threatens to render all good government impossible.

THE text of the Treaty of Peace, and the "Protocols of Conferences" relative to it, are now fully before the public, and are set down for consideration in Parliament in the ensuing week. We do not wish to anticipate the discussions which will necessarily take place on this important subject, but we cannot help remarking, upon a casual perusal of the Protocols of the Conferences, that, whatever differences of opinion may be manifested as to the result of the labours of the Plenipotentiaries, those labours appear to have been carried to completion with remarkable unanimity on their part, a unanimity probably without precedent in the annals of diplomacy. If differences of opinion and of views existed between the representatives of the Powers so recently in active hostility, they appear to have had but faint expression, and to have been most courteously ignored by M. Benedetti, who was intrusted with the drawing up of the protocols. The Plenipotentiaries appear to have been so completely *en accord* upon the one great desideratum of Peace that in the course of nineteen sittings they had framed and signed a treaty for the purpose, consisting, as we all know, of thirty-five articles. This treaty, so far as its fourteenth article, was read and adopted at the fifteenth sitting, on the 26th March; articles 15 to 30, inclusive, were read and adopted at the next meeting, held on the following day; and on the 28th of March the four remaining articles were agreed to. On the 29th a general reading of the whole treaty, and of the conventions attached to it, was had; and on the 30th the treaty was signed. Five meetings were held afterwards, in which various matters of detail, and some original questions, more or less foreign to the ostensible occasion for the Conferences, were discussed; and on the 16th of April, amidst mutual congratulations, and with a warm vote of "gratitude" to Count Walewski, for his "able conduct in the chair," the Congress separated.

Whilst the Congress advisedly—how wisely remains to be seen—postponed many points involved in the subject-matter of the treaty itself for future settlement, they, as it seems to us, went out of their way on one or two occasions, to adjudicate upon matters which were not, as we submit, within the scope of their original instructions;—matters which, though they might very properly be made subjects for deliberation and adjustment on the fitting occasion, and in the fitting manner, were too important to be dealt with as incidental to a peace between the Allies and Russia, for settlement of the affairs of Turkey. We refer particularly to the "Declaration respecting Maritime Law," the subject of which was introduced by Count Walewski at the sitting on the 8th April, and of which it may be sufficient for the present to state, that, in addition to abolishing privateering (which all civilised men must highly approve of), it completely disallows and reverses the principles as to the trading rights of neutrals which Great Britain has asserted and maintained during the wars of the last century, and confirms in its essential points the system of "armed neutrality" which Russia during the same period established and asserted in our despite. In short, one of the weightiest matters, a moot point of international policy which has divided Europe for nearly a century, and in which this country has a deep and peculiar interest, has been settled, and settled against us, in the course of an incidental sitting of the Congress. To say the least of it, this proceeding was precipitate, and will probably excite more difference of opinion in the public mind than it appears to have done amongst the Plenipotentiaries who so unanimously and readily acquiesced in it.

It would indeed be a deplorable contingency if a friendly convention between two great Powers for the promotion of a specific object of mutual and general advantage should become the occasion of a misunderstanding leading to, or threatening, an interruption of their amicable relations; yet such misunderstanding has unhappily occurred between Great Britain and the United States with reference to what is familiarly known as the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty; and the circumstances of the case, as developed in the recently-published "Correspondence," are such as, before they are disposed of, may tax the highest diplomatic qualifications—judgment, firmness, impartiality, tact—of the two Governments.

The essence of the questions in dispute respecting Central America may be stated in few words. The British Government, on the invitation of that of the United States, consented to sign a convention for the purpose of promoting the formation of a ship canal between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, at the same time carefully guarding that neither party "will ever obtain, or maintain, any exclusive control over the said ship canal," or "occupy, or fortify, or colonise, or exercise dominion over" any part of Central America. The British Government took the precaution to declare that these conditions did not in any way apply to their settlement at Honduras and its dependencies, nor to their protectorate of Mosquito, and now generally contend that the provisions were intended to be only prospective, and not retrospective, in their operation. The American Government, however, through their Minister, Mr. Buchanan, contend that, the treaty being signed, we must be bound by the words of it, and that those words oblige us not only not to take up any new position in Central America, but to abandon what we already hold. Mr. Buchanan insists that "not to withdraw is to occupy, and not to occupy is necessarily to withdraw."

Let us, therefore, examine, for an instant, the words of the treaty as to occupancy—allowing, for the moment, that they can have a retroactive effect. As to British Honduras and its dependencies, they are by consent excepted from the operation of the treaty, and the only question is as to Mosquito. With respect to the Mosquito Protectorate, then, do the words "not to occupy" necessarily imply a condition to withdraw? Looking in

"Webster's Dictionary," we find the meaning of the word occupy thus given:—"Occupy, v. t., 1, to take possession; 2, to keep in possession, to possess, to hold or keep for use; 3, to take up, to possess, to cover, to fill." Now, can it be said that by dwelling or sojourning in the Mosquito territory we "occupy," in the essential sense of the word? Certainly not; and Mr. Buchanan was in error as to the meaning of the word he employed when he imagined that an agreement not to occupy, or even one not to continue in occupancy of, a certain spot implied the impossibility of permissive residence without claim of possession. Indeed, with respect to the other settlements in dispute, taking the first meaning of the word "occupy," viz., "to take possession," we would insist that it could have no other than a prospective effect.

Mr. Buchanan, however, considers his case so clear that he cites a passage from Vattel in his chapter on the "Interpretation of Treaties" to the effect that "the first general maxim of interpretation is that it is not allowable to interpret what has no need of interpretation." But if he had looked a little further into this important chapter in the works of the great jurist, as we have done, he would have seen that there are other maxims as to the interpretation of treaties very applicable to the present case. Amongst other principles laid down by Vattel, we find that, in cases of doubtful or disputed construction of an engagement, "the reason of the law or treaty, that is the motive which induced the parties to make it, and the objects proposed in it, is one of the surest means of establishing its veritable sense." Now, what was the motive or object of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty? To form a ship canal between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans; and the negotiations leading to it carefully guarded against disturbing, prejudicing, or in any way affecting existing rights or claims of the contracting parties. Again, Vattel shows that in certain cases a treaty is susceptible of an "extensive interpretation," in others of a "restrictive interpretation;" and he lays it down that, in cases of "promises," they are to be construed restrictively, and "in conformity with the intention of the party who makes the promise." Further, he enforces "the famous distinction between matters favourable and matters odious" (or disadvantageous), in regard to which "equity and reason are to guide." Amongst other doctrines laid down by him under this head are these:—"We are not to presume, without very strong reasons, that one of the contracting parties should have intended to favour the other to his own prejudice," and again:—"Everything which is not to the common advantage, everything which tends to destroy the equality of the contract, everything which charges only one of the parties, or which charges it in a greater degree than the other, is odious;" and again:—"The cause of him who seeks to avoid a loss is more to be favoured than that of him who pretends to a gain." And if any doubt could exist as to the potency and application of these principles, we find them resolved in this one passage, liv. ii., chap. xvii., sec. 305:—"We must also include in the number of things odious all which would go to change the present state of things, for a possessor cannot lose of his rights more than precisely to the extent he has ceded, and in case of doubt the presumption is in favour of the possessor."

What makes the case the more delicate, if not more difficult, to deal with is, that there is too much reason to believe that the two contracting parties were not, from the first and throughout the negotiations, actuated by identity of purpose, inasmuch as the Government of the United States looked to gaining an advantage from the convention, by implication, which the British Government did not contemplate, and did all it could to guard against. In such a position of affairs, however, the wholesome and reasonable doctrine last quoted from Vattel would unquestionably apply.

MR. LABOUCHERE is placed in an unexpected difficulty. No one will accept one of the richest prizes in his patronage. He has offered the Governorship of Victoria to several gentlemen, and met a refusal from all. The *Bemah*, which arrived at Liverpool on Saturday last from Melbourne, brings intelligence of so startling a character that he must indeed be a bold and ambitious man who would covet so unenviable an appointment. The Victorians have displayed a very decided spirit of independence or disaffection, actually claiming a right to elect their own Governor. A requisition had been forwarded to the Mayor of Melbourne calling upon him to convene a public meeting to take this matter into consideration. The meeting was held; and, after much discussion, the show of hands was so equal that the chairman was unable to decide which party had the majority. He then called to his aid two assessors, when a second division took place, but with the same unsatisfactory result. One of the resolutions proposed to vest the nomination of the Governor in the Legislature; another, to transfer it to the great body of the people, voting by ballot. This movement proved a failure; but it is a warning not to be neglected in Downing-street. It must also be noted that the language of the Victorian press is hostile to British authority. The following appeared in the *Melbourne Herald* of the 30th January:—

The Australian people will not submit to any badge of inferiority, neither in themselves to the inhabitants, nor in their Legislatures to the Parliament of England. They claim, in both cases, an absolute equality. They are willing and anxious to hold, directly and immediately, of the Crown, but they repudiate and protest against the interference of the Parliament at Westminster, as a usurpation and a tyranny. They assert their rights as co-equal and co-ordinate. They ignore and despise the Colonial office, as a worn-out obstruction between themselves and the Throne. They claim the management of their own affairs, in all that concerns themselves exclusively.

This is the language of defiance, and though it may not, as we believe it does not, express the sentiments of the majority, yet so fierce a tone is apt to inflame discontent into sedition. The writer, alluding to the contingency of a war between Great Britain and the United States, declares that the people of Victoria "are much more inclined to amity with the United States than with the people of the mother country;" and that they can sympathise with the determination which led the Americans to cast off the yoke. One complaint is perfectly just, and is directed against the apathy of our Government in not providing a regular postal communication with the colony by powerful steam-vessels.

Of late years many wise concessions have been made to our transmarine dominions, and statesmen have learned that they cannot be controlled by force. The Colonial department is gradually becoming little more than a register-office, and the more it assumes that character and abstains from active inter-

ference, the better will be the guarantee of union. It is quite idle to refer to precedents no longer applicable. In all our more recent colonies, the inhabitants knew the defects of British institutions before they emigrated, and will not permit their transplantation into their new homes. The democratic must and will supersede the aristocratic element, and any resistance to that change must be defeated. Thus, in Victoria, the ballot clauses of the new electoral acts were carried by large majorities, although strenuously opposed by the executive officers of Government in the House of Legislature. Melbourne will in future be ruled, as Canada is, by a responsible Ministry holding office with the approval of a majority in Parliament. With this guarantee for freedom and for self-government the colonists, without any danger to their liberties, may accept a Governor nominated by the Crown. Without such a functionary, so chosen and representing Majesty, no Imperial link whatever would connect the colony with the mother country, and the separation between them would be complete. But the time has not arrived for such severance, and were it prematurely forced on by disloyalty, the colony would deeply suffer. The duty of the home authorities is to protect Victoria, not to rule it, and one of the most efficient acts of protectorate would be the immediate organisation of monthly steam communication.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 29, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M. 181 feet above sea level.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day.	Rain in Inches.	Mean Temperature of Wet Bulb.	Mean Temperature of Evaporation.	Amount of Rain (0-10).	Mean amount of Cloud (0-10).
April 23	29.775	67.0	42.8	49.5	0.000	45.4	46.8	4	5
" 24	29.804	56.0	40.2	48.9	0.000	42.5	41.6	6	5
" 25	29.611	70.0	36.9	50.1	0.000	46.9	48.7	2	7
" 26	29.272	50.8	42.7	45.4	0.565	44.7	44.4	3	5
" 27	29.427	48.0	37.0	43.6	0.000	43.5	40.9	10	7
" 28	29.428	53.1	28.5	39.6	0.060	37.7	37.3	2	8
" 29	29.432	46.0	29.8	40.3	0.025	42.5	38.6	2	7
Mean	29.536	55.1	36.8	44.6	0.850	43.3	42.6	4.1	6.3

The range of temperature during the week was 41.5°. The weather was fine on four days; on 25th thunder and lightning, and again on 28th.

The direction of the wind was—on 23rd, S.S.E., moving through the S. to E. at 1½ a.m., became E.N.E. at 2½ a.m., about which it oscillated till 11h. 10m. a.m. on 26th, when it moved through N. to W., became N.N.E. again at 5½ p.m.; from 1½ a.m. on 25th, between W. and N.

Severe frosts on the 28th and 29th. On the 25th the landrail and cuckoo were heard. E. J. LOWE.

THE REPRESENTATION OF LANCASTER.—Since the announcement that one of the members for this borough intends to retire, Mr. Robert Gladstone, of Manchester, has intimated his intention of becoming a candidate to supply the vacancy. Mr. Gladstone's politics are Conservative. —Manchester Guardian.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.—The valuable office of Deputy Keeper of the Rolls, Dublin, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Robert Wogan, has been conferred on Mr. John Reilly, son-in-law of Lord St. Leonards, and Secretary to the Master of the Rolls. The latter appointment has been given to Mr. W. R. C. Smith, son of the Master.

A VALUABLE BRANCH OF EDUCATION.—Yesterday afternoon a class of about thirty boys, to whom Dr. Hodgson has for some time past been giving lessons in physiology and its application to the preservation of health, was examined in presence of the governors of the hospital, Dr. Bedford, the house-governor, and a number of visitors. The subjects selected for examination were the skeleton and its principal parts, the organs and uses of the circulation of the blood, respiration, digestion, the source of animal heat, and the functions of the skin. On these topics much accurate information was displayed by the pupils, who evidently took a lively interest in what they had been learning. At the conclusion Dr. Sibbald, on behalf of himself and the other governors present, expressed their high satisfaction with the zeal, ability, and success with which Dr. Hodgson had seconded their wish to introduce this important branch of instruction into the hospital. They had confidently expected success, but his own most sanguine hopes had been more than realised, and he felt that a debt of gratitude was due to Dr. Hodgson. The Rev. Dr. K. Lee trusted that a department of instruction so exceedingly useful and interesting to every human being would speedily be introduced into all our schools. Dr. Renton said the pupils must now understand far better than they ever did before the truth that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made," and must also see how fearfully and wonderfully we are preserved: how much our usefulness and happiness are dependent upon ourselves; and how strong are the inducements to lead a sober and industrious life. Dr. Bedford, on behalf of the pupils, acknowledged the delight with which they had listened to the instruction of Dr. Hodgson, imparted so clearly and in so kindly a spirit; and, on his own part, as an educationist, felt indebted to that gentleman for valuable information which he hoped to turn to good account. Dr. Hodgson rejoiced to know that Dr. Bedford intended to pursue the path in which he himself had been endeavouring to be useful; and he indulged the hope that ere long physiology and the laws of health would be taught in all similar institutions throughout the kingdom. —Scotsman, April 19.

THE LONG RANGE.—The *Bury Post* states that the report of the firing of the mighty engines of war at the naval review at Spithead last week was distinctly heard in the neighbourhood of Newmarket, causing a slight but palpable tremor of the earth, and many fancied it was distant thunder.

MORMON EMIGRANTS.—The *Wolverhampton Chronicle* states that early this week a party of Mormons, numbering upwards of 180, arrived at the Queen-street station in that town, by the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, en route for the Salt Lake. This large body of perverses to the mischievous doctrines of Joe Smith was chiefly from the agricultural districts of Worcestershire. The greater proportion were young people, varying from sixteen to twenty-five years of age, although among the number were several infirm and decrepit old men and women accompanying their families and grandchildren.

WARNING TO GROCERS.—At the Sheriff's Small Debt Court on Thursday a rather novel case was disposed of. It appeared that a grocer in the city had a large quantity of sugar in his window ticketed at 44d. per lb. A person entered the shop and purchased a pound, and afterwards ordered the total quantity upon which the ticket was placed. The grocer expressed his willingness to sell a pound at the price quoted, but refused to part with a lot at that price. Thereupon an action was brought, suing the grocer for the difference in price between 42s. per cwt. and 47s. per cwt.—the former being 44d. per lb. and the latter the price at which the same quality of sugar could be bought wholesale elsewhere. The Sheriff decided against the grocer, holding that the public were entitled to believe, from the ticket in the window, that the sugar was saleable at that price either in small or large quantities. —Glasgow Herald.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Bengal Harkuru* states that a Suttie has occurred in the South Pergunnals. The pile was prepared by the wretched woman herself, apparently without assistance, and the body was discovered only half burnt. The Deputy-Commissioner has commenced an investigation.

THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW REPEALED.—The Lower House of the Maine Legislature some days ago passed a new Temperance Bill, concurring with the Senate by a vote of 78 to 68, after a seemingly careful and deliberate examination of the subject. The bill was strongly opposed by the advocates of the prohibitory principle, which it repudiates. —Washington Intelligencer, April 14.

A PARIS CORRESPONDENT of the *Angbure Gazette* says:—"A foreign diplomatist who has relations with St. Petersburg, has mentioned that the Russian Government have already received applications for 40,000 passports for foreign countries, three-quarters of which are for France."

FLETE, DEVONSHIRE.—The birth of an heir to the ancient house of the Fletes was celebrated with great festivity at Flete, on Tuesday, April 29th, when the tenantry, labourers, and dependants of the property, about 150 in number, were regaled on good old English fare of roast beef and plum-pudding, &c. An ode composed for the occasion by Mr. Grant, the steward, and recited by him, was rapturously applauded.

The Piedmontese Government is preparing a law which will impose a caution-money on journals, and give the Government the right of suppressing a journal that has been condemned five times.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE FORTHCOMING REJOICINGS.—The preparations for the fireworks in Hyde-park, the Green-park, and the Victoria-park are now completed. The buildings are each severally 200 feet long and 60 feet high. The fireworks are in an advanced state of preparation, and could, on an emergency, be completed in a day or two. But it is now the intention of the Government to defer the rejoicings for a fortnight or three weeks, as it is proposed to have a day of general thanksgiving previous to the general rejoicings. On the part of the Government fireworks will be provided of a similar character to those in London for Edinburgh and Dublin; and it is expected that many of the principal cities in the kingdom will embrace the opportunity to give vent to their joy at the return of peace. With respect to the fireworks in the metropolis, the discharge of rockets from Primrose-hill is expected to be the most effective. Above 20,000 will be discharged at once. Some of the pieces and bouquets will be of a most splendid description, several of them being sixty feet high. In the House of Commons it was stated that the cost would not exceed £8000; but, considering the extent of the preparations, it is very questionable whether this sum will cover the outlay.

GRAND BANQUET AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—On Wednesday evening a splendid entertainment was given by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress to Lord Brougham and the members of the Society for the Amendment of the Law. About two hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down to dinner, among were Lord Brougham, the Earl of Harrowby, Sir Thomas Erskine Perry, M.P., Hon. Locke King, M.P., Right Hon. Robert Lowe, M.P., Mr. J. Napier, M.P., Mr. J. Abel Smith, M.P., Mr. E. H. Craufurd, M.P., Mr. S. Hatfield, M.P., Mr. Lloyd Davies, M.P., &c. The usual loyal toasts were proposed by the Lord Mayor, which were received and responded to with every demonstration of loyalty. In proposing "The health of Lord Brougham and the members of the Law Amendment Society," the Lord Mayor said it was many years since he had the pleasure of seeing the noble and learned Lord at the Mansion House as a guest. His Lordship had conferred upon him the honour of his presence on that occasion in connection with a society of which he was the head, and to which he was greatly attached, having founded that society for the public good—he meant the Law Amendment Society. Lord Brougham was distinguished as a great lawyer, an eminent statesman, and upright judge, and equally distinguished in art and science. The noble and learned Lord was identified with the principles of law reform, and was the early companion of the late Sir Samuel Romilly some thirty-five years ago, and had shadowed out with him many of those great law reforms of which the public now derived the benefit. Lord Brougham, in returning thanks, had no hesitation in saying, in this great capital of the commercial world, that in the improvement of trade there was not one question which deserved greater consideration at the hands of the commercial body than the improvement or amendment of the laws of the land. The Law Amendment Society had, however, not yet received that amount of support from the merchants of London which it ought to have.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—A special court was held at Guildhall, on Saturday last, "in consequence of a requisition (as the business paper stated) numerous signed, to consider the propriety of preparing and issuing an address to members of both Houses of Parliament, in conformity with the resolutions passed by this court on the 11th April instant."—Mr. Deputy Holt, after pointing out an omission of the court on the 11th ult., in not appointing a committee, moved "That a committee be appointed to prepare an address to the members of both Houses of Parliament, setting forth the grounds on which this corporation feels in duty bound to offer its strongest opposition to the second reading of the bill for the better regulation of the corporation, and to conduct any proceedings that may be required to prevent the further progress of the same, and to report from time to time to this court." Mr. Blake seconded the motion, which was carried, after some remarks by Mr. H. L. Taylor, who was averse from opposing the bill in toto.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—A grand fancy-dress ball, for the benefit of the Royal Academy of Music, which her Majesty has graciously signified her intention of honouring with her presence, will take place at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Friday, June 6th.

THE PROCLAMATION OF PEACE.—The Lord Mayor has appointed to hold a Court of Common Council on Monday, for taking into consideration an address to her Majesty on the establishment of peace. His lordship has summoned the members of the Corporation to assemble at the Mansion House on Sunday (to-morrow) for the purpose of proceeding to St. Paul's to return thanks for the restoration of peace.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCRIPTURE READERS' ASSOCIATION.—The twelfth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this institution was held on Tuesday at the Hanover-square Rooms; the Bishop of Carlisle in the chair. It appeared from the report that the number of families visited had been 138,476; that visits had been refused by 6535; the Scriptures read to 321,331; to people of no communion, 85,940; to those professing to attend worship regularly, 114,755; attending sometimes, 170,567; never attending, 107,692. The financial statement showed the receipts to have been £10,193 6s. 11d., and the expenditure £9368 10s. 7d.; thus leaving a balance in hand of £843 16s. 4d.

THE WEEKLY TRACT SOCIETY FOR THE RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.—At the eighth annual meeting of this society, held on Monday evening at Exeter-hall—the Earl of Shaftesbury, president of the society, in the chair—the Secretary read the report, which stated that during the year just closed the society has issued 1,306,950 tracts.

LONDON COFFEE AND EATING-HOUSE KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.—The nineteenth anniversary festival of this association was celebrated on Monday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Kennedy presiding, supported by Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Rose, and many other influential friends of the Institution. In proposing "Prosperity to the Association," the Chairman drew particular attention to the satisfactory progress it had made, and the large amount of benefit which had accrued from the administration of its funds. It appeared that ten pensioners were now receiving the bounty of the society, and the amount of its funded property was upwards of £3000, whilst the receipts for the past year had been £492 2s. 7d.

ROYAL PANOPTICON.—The fourth of the series of concerts took place on Monday evening last, when the "Creation" was repeated. Miss Ransford, Mr. Wilby Cooper, and Mr. Whitehouse (of the Chapel Royal, Windsor), filling the principal parts, assisted by an increased chorus of fifty voices. Mr. E. T. Chipp presided at the organ. Miss Ransford executed the portion of the music allotted to her in her usual careful manner. Mr. Wilby Cooper was encoined in the well-known air, "In native worth."

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday a meeting of the Royal National Life Boat Institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair. The silver medal of the institution was voted to chief boatman George Hamilton, of Buncrana, Coast Guard station, and 10s. to each of his boat's crew of six men (who with Hamilton had additionally received £25 from the owners of the vessel), in testimony of their gallant conduct, in having rescued, at the risk of their lives, thirteen out of fourteen of the crew of the barque *Augusta Jessie*, which, during an awful gale, was wrecked on the coast of Dougalate late on the night of the 6th ult. The life-boat in connection with the institution, stationed at Pakefield, had, on the 13th ult., during a gale of wind, rescued the crew, consisting of eleven men, of the brig *Thomas*, of London. The life-boat crew had received £10 for their laudable services. A reward of £7 was also granted to fourteen old fishermen, some of whom were upwards of seventy years of age, for putting off in the Newbiggin life-boat, with the view of rendering assistance to some twenty-two fishing cobs which were suddenly overtaken at sea by a violent gale. An old sailor, upwards of eighty years of age, who had creditably exerted himself in saving the lives of two men capized from a boat near Sunderland, was likewise presented with a reward for his prompt services.

PALMER'S TRIAL.—The Lord Chief Justice Campbell has fixed the trial of William Palmer for the alleged poisonings at Rugeley for Wednesday, the 14th of May. As this will be the day for the commencement of the session, it is considered that the trial, if it takes place on that day, will greatly interfere with the other business before the Court. Representations have been made on the subject by the Under-Sheriffs, and the probability is that the trial will take place upon some day early in the week after the commencement of the session, and not upon the 14th, as fixed by the Lord Chief Justice. It is said that already not less than two thousand applications have been made to the Sheriff for orders of admission to be present at the trial—a number far greater than can be accommodated in the Old Court. The delay that has taken place in inquiring Palmer a fair trial has proved seriously detrimental to his defence. Mr. Serjeant Wilkins is absent from illness. Sir Frederic Thesiger and Mr. Edwin James are both engaged by the Crown. Sir Fitzroy Kelly requires £1000 as his fee, and Mr. Ballantine, therefore, will conduct the defence—against Sir A. Cockburn. The odds are very heavy, so far as counsel are concerned; but the prisoner's friends and family, who firmly believe in his innocence, regard the presence of Lord Campbell on the bench as a great protection.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The deaths of 1018 persons—namely, 533 males and 515 females—were registered in London in the week that ended on Saturday. The number is almost the same as that of the preceding week. In the corresponding weeks of the ten years 1846-55 the average number was 1029. But the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population; and, if the average now stated is raised proportionally, it becomes 1132. The present state of the public health appears, from a comparison of results to be not unfavourable. The births of 915 boys and 916 girls, in all 1831 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55 the average number was 1541.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

PEACE has been proclaimed. A procession of heralds, beadles, and other queer-looking persons—the equestrians more or less afraid of their horses, and the pedestrians, especially the Bumbles, affording other food for popular derision—has discharged in ludicrous fashion the duty of announcing, formally, the most important fact since 1815. The sword laid down, all differences adjusted, a new member admitted into the European family, the Christian faith in the East placed in its rightful position,—this is some of the news which we send beadles to tell. Assuredly, Beadledom ought to hold up its rather discouraged head, and brush up its seedy cocked hats.

Government, moreover, has now discovered that we ought to have a day of thanksgiving at once; and, acting upon this discovery, has proclaimed it with such haste that in Scotland the kirk must include two Sundays in one week, if the Governmental order—issued on Monday last, and fixing the thanksgiving day for the 4th May, while ordering that notice of it shall be given on a previous Sunday—is to be obeyed. It is stated that the appointing a Sunday instead of a week day for the solemnity was the wise and thoughtful suggestion of the highest personage in the country, who took into consideration, not only that there are two opinions about the peace, and that some persons may be determined to avoid any recognition of its supposed merits, but that the working classes, and all who are dependent on daily wages, ought not to be made sufferers by the loss of a day. The other celebration, the fire-work show, is postponed until the 29th May, when the Queen's birthday is kept; and whether this postponement be due to the magnitude of the preparations, or to the desire to merge all differences of opinion in a demonstration of the loyalty common to all, there is no reason to object to it. The chief reason against it is that the day will be considerably longer, and the people will have more time hanging on their hands before the spectacle can begin. The theatrical managers have met to consider whether the theatres should be open or shut, and have decided to close for that night, unless the Government will enable them to open gratuitously—their only chance, they think of obtaining audiences. The cost of doing this would be comparatively little, and it would afford a new amusement to a large class not usually able to obtain it. Sir George Grey was to be consulted.

The Ministry has also had its own affairs to mind. The series of beatings that it has been receiving has induced Lord Palmerston to summon his adherents to his house in Piccadilly, where he explained to them that this kind of thing really could not go on, and that, though regular voting in platoons was not to be expected since the Reform Act (which his Lordship somewhat regarded as having made members more patriotic and less party-spirited than before), still, if Government could not rely upon support it could not go on. Lord Derby, on the other hand, has also had his meeting; but, whereas the spur was wanted in Piccadilly, the bride was in requisition in St. James's-square. The Conservative leader had to restrain his impetuous followers, and to intimate to them that this Kars question, for instance, involved far too important interests to be treated as a mere matter of party; and, moreover, that, even if their zeal should win a victory over Government, he should not feel it his duty to reward that zeal by taking office. It is said that Lord Palmerston had been made aware, some time since, that such would be Lord Derby's course—doubtless a statesmanlike one—and therefore he was able to bid bold defiance to the enemy.

Of other domestic matters, that exciting most interest seems to be the approaching trial of Palmer of Rugeley for the alleged poisonings. The applications for places in the Court may be reckoned by thousands; while the possible accommodation is limited to a few hundreds. The Attorney-General prosecutes, aided by Mr. Edwin James and Mr. Huddelstone, and in such hands there is no chance that justice will be defeated by any accident, whatever may be the result of a full and righteous investigation. It is thought that the theories of medical witnesses will be made to clash, if possible; but it will be the duty—and one worthy of a high intellect—of the advocate to balance or to reconcile this class of evidence; and a fairer opportunity could not be afforded for the bar to vindicate that claim which it is somewhat addicted to make, of superiority, as regards the logical faculty, over the medical profession. If theorists, with various sets of experiments, are permitted by their conflict to confuse a jury into the belief that there is no such thing as abstract truth in the propositions of science, the accused is safe.

The Postmaster-General promises us a new system for the delivery of London letters, which we shall receive every hour. An important change in the present arrangements, which take a letter many miles out of its way to the central office, will be made, and London will be divided into a series of districts, each a centre, from which the letters will be carried direct to their destination. The Postmaster will expect letter-writers to make themselves masters of his simple requisitions as to the direction of their despatches, and this is a small matter to ask. We are also told that some new street nomenclature is to be ordered, that the troublesome nuisance of having a dozen streets of the same name may be got rid of. Our recent campaigns and victories will afford some hints to the sponsors—why not turn King-square into Inkerman-square, Queen-street into Alma-street, and so on?

The question of the late run upon the National Provident Institution has assumed a different aspect from that which it wore to the public eye when we last wrote. A statement has appeared on the part of the discharged officials, to whom blame was in the first instance imputed; and this document, if it be substantiated, most materially alters the case. It is declared that the dismissal of these individuals—whose names we learned for the first time from their own vindication—took place, not only for reasons apparently inadequate, but in the most arbitrary and offensive manner. Some of the gentlemen thus extruded are represented as having been for very many years in the service of the institution; and we are bound to say that their reply entitles them to have their case thoroughly investigated before the public eye. They utterly deny having given any ground for the charge that they had been instrumental in causing the distrust which occasioned the run; and it is due to them, we having reproduced the original charge, to give as wide a circulation to their repudiation and counter-statement. Reverting again to the interest of the public—for whose sake alone, of course, we took up an unflattering subject—we regret not to have observed that any step has been taken to reassure the body of humble depositors of the security of this establishment, and of the incalculable value of such institutions to the cause of social and moral progress.

PROGRESS OF GREECE.—The *Débats* publishes some figures supplied by the head of a commercial firm at Marsille, a person described by our contemporary "better acquainted than any other with the facts," in order to show what progress Greece has made during the twenty-five years that have elapsed since her separation from Turkey. According to this authority, in a year 1821 the Peloponnesus, the continental territory and the islands now comprising the kingdom of Greece, contained 74,420 agriculturalists; in 1854 the number was 109,320. The land under cultivation at the first date was 2,338,000 stremmas (each of 1193 square yards), and at the second 3,650,000 stremmas. The corn produced in 1821 was 5,100,000 kilobars; in 1854, 9,150,000 kilobars. Cattle have increased in the same period from 21,700 to 33,700 yokes.

THE POPE AND THE ITALIAN QUESTION.—The high ecclesiastical circles of Rome are pestered by the Cavour programme, and interested in a strong language make use of by the English press respecting the national liberation of his Holiness's dominions and the necessity of reform. The sacred departure for Paris, on Saturday last, of Monsignor Bonardi, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, is generally attributed to the construction of the Court at the bare mention of a question of such vital importance as a limit to the temporal sovereignty of the Supreme Pontiff, and the consequent desire to have a negotiator of authority and credit as a diplomatist to assist the pope in his remonstrances, and counteract the official suggestions of constitutional plenipotentiaries.—Letter from Rome, April 24.



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—THE FLEET ROUNDING THE PIVOT-SHIPS AT THE NAB, PORTSMOUTH.—DRAWN BY E. WEEDON.—(SEE PAGE 467).

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—Earl St. Germans moved the second reading of a bill for legalising, under certain restrictions, marriage with a deceased wife's sister.—The Bishop of Oxford strongly condemned the bill, and moved as an amendment that it be read a second time that day six months.—The bill was supported by the Earl of Albemarle, Lord Ravensworth, and other noble Lords; and opposed by Lord Duncannon, Lord Campbell, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Exeter, &c.; after which their Lordships divided, and the bill was rejected by a majority of 43 to 24.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

TROOPS FOR CANADA.—In reply to a question from Mr. Laing, Lord Palmerston said there was no truth in the rumour that it was intended to send 10,000 men to Canada. The fact was, that when the war broke out they drew from Canada every available soldier, to supply the ranks in the Crimea, and now that it was over, they were about to send them back. Instead of 10,000, however, the number would only be about 4000. There was no truth whatever in the report that we were about to send a force to Costa Rica to oppose Colonel Walker.

THE MISHAPS AT THE NAVAL REVIEW.—In reply to some remarks from Mr. Lindsay, Sir C. Wood rose, amidst much cheering and laughter, to give an explanation relative to the arrangements made for the two Houses of Parliament to witness the great naval review. The right hon. gentleman entered into a lengthened detail of all the arrangements which had been made for the accommodation of hon. members, from which it appeared that the disappointment was to be attributed mainly to defective railway arrangements and accidents, which threw everything into confusion. With respect to the *Transit*, he spoke highly of her Commander, but said that he was informed that by some unpardonable negligence her fires had been allowed to go out, or become so low as not to generate steam.

The House then went into Committee on the Counties and Boroughs Police Bill, and the discussion of its clauses chiefly occupied the remainder of the evening.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Lord Brougham laid upon the table a bill to assimilate the law of marriage in Scotland to that of England.

The Earl of Clarendon laid on the table the Treaty of Peace which was ratified on Sunday at Paris, and gave notice that the subject would be taken into consideration on Monday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Lord Palmerston laid upon the table the Treaty of Peace between Russia and the Allied Powers, which was ordered to be taken into consideration on Monday next. The noble Lord further stated that her Majesty had appointed Sunday next as a day of thanksgiving.

In reply to a question from Lord J. Manners, Lord Palmerston said he would propose that the House should adjourn for the Whitsuntide holidays from Friday the 9th until Friday the 16th of May.

THE FALL OF KARS.

Mr. Whiteside then proceeded to move the following resolution:—

That, while this House feels it to be its duty to express its admiration of the gallantry of the Turkish soldiery and of the devotion of the British officers at the siege of Kars, it feels it to be equally a duty to express its conviction that the capitulation of that fortress, and the surrender of the army which defended it, thereby endangering the safety of the Asiatic provinces of Turkey, were in a great measure owing to the want of foresight and energy on the part of her Majesty's Administration.

The hon. and learned gentleman gave a short but succinct narrative of the manner in which Russia had encroached upon and incorporated the territories of her neighbours, until her power became so colossal as to be dangerous to Europe as well as Asia. The policy of Russia in striving to universal dominion was to attack Turkey in her Asiatic provinces, for there she gained a double advantage—that of absorbing Turkish territory, and overawing Persia at the same time. Under these circumstances it was the duty of a British Minister to take steps to meet any advances of the Russians in Asia Minor, which was the route to British India. The Turks having been defeated by the Russians in five battles, and the army of Turkey in Asia Minor having become disorganised, at last the English Government began to think it time to act, and accordingly they sent a Commissioner to Turkey, with instructions to our Ambassador there that he was to give him every countenance and support. General Williams was the Commissioner, but never was man so abandoned to his fate as that gallant officer. He actually bombarded Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and Lord Clarendon with despatches; but all in vain, for during the whole period of his career in Asia Minor the only aid he received, either from England or Constantinople, was four men and one doctor. The hon. and learned gentleman then quoted largely from the blue-book, in order to show how hopelessly neglected was General Williams, and said that the blue-book, which was perhaps the most extraordinary that ever saw the light, gave no clue whatever to the motives of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, for conduct which was utterly unintelligible. He had suffered no less than fifty-four letters from General Williams to remain wholly unanswered; and it appeared that neither that gallant officer, nor the Ambassador, nor the Government at home ever knew or ever defined the authority with which the Commissioner was invested. Mr. Whiteside went through the correspondence in the blue-book, in order to show that, however blameable Lord Stratford de Redcliffe might have been at first, he was innocent of the fall of Kars, for he had pressed the necessity of sending succours on the Government repeatedly; but the vacillation and want of purpose of the Government at home were the real cause of the surrender of the Turkish army of Asia Minor. Even if they had sent out no military force they might have saved Kars by sending out a sum of from £50 to £100,000 to purchase provisions; but he deliberately charged the Government with not having the intention of saving Kars, for they had been warned by Lord Ellenborough and others that its fate was sealed if not speedily succoured.

The Attorney-General said he was not there to defend Lord Stratford de Redcliffe from the charge of remissness, but he asked the House if they were prepared to assert that the Government should have recalled that nobleman? The Government had no interest in him. He was not one of their partisans. He was appointed by the Earl of Derby, who, in creating him a peer, had jumped over the first step in the peerage and made him a Viscount. The rebuke which he had received from the Earl of Clarendon, and which he must have severely felt, was sufficient; and he was sure were right hon. gentlemen on the Opposition benches in power they would not think of recalling a man who had won so much of the confidence of the Turkish Government, and rendered such eminent services to his country as had Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. It was only justice to him, however, to say that, though he had not answered the letters of General Williams, yet he had acted upon them, or that gallant officer never could have effected the changes he had done in the Turkish army. It was very easy to say that the British Government should have sent out troops to relieve Kars; but where were they to get them when we had ransacked our colonies, and already sent every disposable man to the Crimea? What would have been said if the Government had divided the army before Sebastopol, already too weak, and sent half of it to Armenia? Why, the whole country would have rung with their condemnation. It was said they might have sent money. He would ask in what shape? As a gift? or as a loan? They had come to that House to guarantee a loan, and they were met by being told that they were resorting to the worn-out system of subsidies, and the hon. and learned gentleman himself had actually voted and very nearly defeated the Government on the question of the Turkish loan. The Government had achieved every purpose for which the war was commenced; and, though our enemies had exhausted their resources, the late naval review proved that this country had by no means exhausted hers; and on the advent of a peace under such circumstances it was that the House was called upon to pass a censure upon the Ministry which had guided the helm through a difficult and stormy period.

Lord J. Manners contended that the fall of Kars was entirely attributable to the supineness of the British Government. The blue-book contained not one line to show that the Turkish Government had received one shilling of the Turkish loan; although had they had the money they might have been enabled to save Kars. The absorption of the Turkish Contingent into the British army, managed as it had been, was damaging to Turkey, and rendered that country the less able to relieve that fortress.

The Lord Advocate contended that the motion of Mr. Whiteside, however brilliantly advocated, must fall to the ground; because, in point of fact, it was not true, for Kars had not fallen owing to the want of foresight and energy on the part of the Government.

Mr. J. G. Phillimore moved the adjournment of the debate, which was assented to.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

FALL OF KARS.

The Earl of Malmesbury withdrew his motion, which stood for Friday, relative to the fall of Kars. He regretted feeling it to be his duty to take that course, but he was unwilling to forestall the discussion on the treaty of peace, which stood for Monday next.

In reply to a question from the Earl of Malmesbury, Earl Granville said he would state on Friday the terms of the address to be moved on the following Monday on the subject of the treaty.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE MILITARY BANDS IN THE PARKS.—Sir B. Hall stated, in reply

to the Marquis of Blandford, that he had directed the military bands to play on Sundays in the parks. He had not asked the permission of the officers, he had only communicated with the Horse Guards. He had obtained a band to play in Kensington Gardens on Sundays last autumn, and the good conduct of the people on that occasion had determined him to direct others to play in Hyde Park and Victoria Park. He had not yet made any arrangements for the sale of refreshments, but if he found it necessary he would do so—excluding, however, intoxicating liquors.

IRISH EVICTIONS.

Mr. McMahon moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into certain evictions which a Scotch proprietor had made from his newly-acquired estates in the county Galway.

After some conversation, in the course of which Lord Palmerston strongly condemned the practice of evictions, as full of mischief both to the tenants on the particular estate and to the community at large, the motion was withdrawn.

THE FALL OF KARS.

Mr. J. G. Phillimore, who resumed the adjourned debate, said he had intended to move for a Select Committee upon Lord Stratford's conduct, but as Mr. Whiteside had taunted the Government with attempting to ride off upon that amendment he would withdraw it. He was satisfied with the tone and temper in which Lord Stratford's conduct had been spoken of in this debate, and he would not interpose between Mr. Whiteside and the defeat which he believed to await his motion.

Mr. Ker Seymour rose to advise different parties to sheathe their swords and part from this fray in peace, and in order to that he rose to move as an amendment that after the words of encomium on General Williams and the Turkish garrison, which were contained in the motion, he would add that this House postpones giving any opinion upon the causes of the fall of the city till after they had considered the Treaty of Peace. The issue he would put to them was—was there such a strong and palpable case against the Government as that the House should, without further consideration, proceed to condemn it? For his part, he thought there was not; and therefore he would press his amendment.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said Mr. Whiteside's speech and his motion were founded on the assumption that the British Government was responsible for the conduct of the war in Asia Minor. Now, that was an assumption which he denied. That war was committed necessarily to the management of the Turkish Government, and the only question was whether the British Government should have interfered so far as to send General Williams as their commissioner. Our allies, the French, took no notice of that war at all, and would not even send a commissioner. It might as well be argued that we were responsible for the conduct of the French army, and that the French Government was responsible for ours, because both Governments sent commissioners respectively to each other's army. General Williams had no more authority at Kars than those commissioners had, and it was his own energy and genius that raised him to a position so much more conspicuous than those other commissioners. So conspicuous, indeed, had his gallantry been, that it led people to suppose that the garrison of Kars was an English army and not a Turkish one. It was said that if the Turkish Government had got the loan in time it would have been applied to the support of Kars. Now, he could state that the Act having been passed on the 14th of August, £100,000 of the loan, in hard cash, was shipped for Turkey on the 25th of that month, and £500,000 was sent by the 15th of September. But the Turks would give no security for the due application of the money to the purposes of war till the 24th of November, which was, in fact, the very day that Kars capitulated.

Sir J. Pakington rose to express his dissent from the extraordinary statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the Government was not responsible for the management of the war in Asia. Every line in the blue-book contradicted that statement, which seemed to him only to have been hazarded by the right honourable gentleman from the conviction that the conduct of the Government admitted of no real defence. Their interference with the plans for the relief of Kars proved their responsibility. He contended that it was to the vacillation and imbecility of the British Government the fall of Kars was clearly to be traced.

Mr. Layard complained of the inconsistency of the Opposition with regard to this motion. He had repeatedly called attention to the importance of Asiatic Turkey, and had urged the Opposition members to join him in pressing it upon the Government. But they refused to do this when it would have been of use. Now, when the mischief was done, they proposed to censure the Government for taking the very course which they themselves had all along been acted upon. He did not mean to say the Government was faultless, but he believed the case against it had been grossly exaggerated. Lord Clarendon had been censured for recommending the Turks to abandon Kars, but he must say it was exactly the advice he should have himself given, as he believed there were positions which were more defensible than Kars. Now, as to the relief of Kars, in the summer the best route for the relieving army was by way of Trebizond and Batoum. But when the summer months were lost, and time became precious, the only chance was a diversion by way of the Kutais. He had never given a factious vote in the House, and he felt he should be giving one now if he were to vote that the fall of Kars was to be wholly attributed to her Majesty's Ministers. After all, the French Government might have something to do with the affair, though they had not been referred to in the course of this debate. He must therefore vote against the motion.

Mr. Maguire threw the whole blame of the loss of Kars upon Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

Sir W. Heathcote urged upon the House the adoption of Mr. Ker Seymour's amendment, which he explained to be equivalent to voting the previous question. If that amendment were rejected, he must vote for the motion.

Mr. Warner condemned the conduct of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. Mr. Serjeant Shree strongly advised the Prime Minister not to accede to the amendment. He had prosecuted the war with the utmost vigour, and had concluded a peace which the House and the country would pronounce to be safe and honourable, and they were anxious by a large majority to acquit him and his Government of the blame which this factious resolution attempted to fix upon him.

Sir E. Bulwer Lytton moved the adjournment of the debate. Lord Palmerston hoped the House would not agree to the adjournment. He could understand that the party who had shrunk from the question in the other House—daunted probably by the speech of the member for Enniskillen—should wish to adjourn; but he would not lend himself to such an evasion. He was ready to wait there till the latest hour, but he was determined to divide the House upon the question.

Mr. Disraeli could not understand the tone of the noble Lord. The delay was to be attributed to the vacillation of Mr. Phillimore in putting forward an amendment which he did not mean to press. The House might expect to hear Lord Palmerston himself, Lord John Russell, the members of the Aberdeen Government, and, if he might say so, himself. Under these circumstances he was as determined to press the adjournment as the noble Lord was to oppose it.

The House then divided on the adjournment, when the Government had a majority of 243 to 173. The announcement was received with loud cheers.

Lord Palmerston was satisfied with the result, and made no farther opposition to the motion.

The debate was accordingly adjourned till Thursday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

A new writ was issued for the county of Longford, in the room of Mr. Fox, deceased.

DWELLINGS FOR THE LABOURING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.—Sir W. Somerville moved that the House resolve itself into Committee on the Dwellings for the Labouring Classes (Ireland) Bill.—Colonel Greville and Mr. De Vere considered the bill to be very objectionable, but would endeavour to amend it in Committee.—Mr. Brady moved as amendment that the House resolve itself into a Committee on the bill that day six months.—Sir W. Somerville defended the bill, which was only calculated to improve the habitations of the poorer classes in Ireland, which were now a disgrace to the country.—Lord Bernard hoped the House would be allowed to go into Committee, where any objections to the bill might be removed.—Mr. J. O'Connell opposed the bill, as giving increased powers of eviction to the landlords of Ireland.—Mr. Napier could not understand how the principle of the bill could be objected to, as it was in every point of view favourable to the working classes, and he would, therefore, give every support in his power.—Mr. Maguire opposed the bill, owing to the summary powers it conferred on landlords. After some observations from Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Deasy, Captain Magan, and Sir K. Fergusson, Mr. Brady withdrew his amendment, the House went into Committee, and the discussion of the various clauses occupied the remainder of the day.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

This being Ascension Day, their Lordships did not meet.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

LAND TRANSPORT CORPS.—Mr. F. Peel, in reply to Colonel Dunne, said the propriety of disbanding the Land Transport Corps was under consideration.

MEDICAL STAFF OF THE ARMY.—Mr. F. Peel, in reply to Mr. Palk, said that, although it was not intended to reduce the present medical staff of the Army, every care would be taken to preserve its efficiency.

THE CUSTOMS IN SPAIN.—Mr. Liddell asked whether the attention of the Government had been called to the refusal of the Spanish Government to refund certain excesses of duty levied at Tarragona upon cargoes of iron shipped for that port at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and whether the Government were prepared in future to protect British merchants from extortion by the Custom-house authorities at the Spanish ports?—Lord Palmerston said that the subject had occupied the attention both of the Government at home and of Lord

Howden, our representative at Madrid. The justice of the claim was fully admitted by the Spanish Government, and they had promised to settle it; but, up to the present time, they had not done so. With regard to the general question it was well known that Spain was not the readiest of countries to meet pecuniary claims ("Hear" and laughter); but no exertion should be wanting on the part of the Government to induce Spain to meet such cases in an honourable manner.

THE BOUNDARIES OF MOLDAVIA.—Lord Palmerston, in reply to Sir H. Willoughby, stated that the boundary of Moldavia was so well defined in the treaty that it was not difficult to trace it on a map. A commission was to be appointed to settle the boundary, and meanwhile it was satisfactory to know that all the islands on the Danube, and the Salt Lakes, as well as the lower part of the Pruth, were within the Moldavian boundary.

RUSSIAN FORTS ON THE BLACK SEA.—Lord John Manners said he found by the Protocols that there had been a discussion at the Conferences as to the right of Russia to rebuild her forts on the eastern shores of the Black Sea, but he was unable to gather from them whether Russia could rebuild those forts or not? He should be glad if the First Lord of the Treasury would now inform him.—Lord Palmerston said there had been a discussion upon the subject at the Conferences, but no decision was arrived at, and there was nothing about it in the Treaty of Peace (Hear).—Lord J. Manners: Then Russia can rebuild these forts? Was there a second discussion upon the subject?—Lord Palmerston could not say.

FALL OF KARS.

The adjourned debate upon Mr. Whiteside's motion was resumed by Sir H. L. Bulwer Lytton, who said he had moved the adjournment of the debate because he conceived that the question had been imperfectly discussed on both sides of the House, rather than from any wish to go at any great length into the question himself. Mr. Layard, he thought, had exaggerated the charge brought against the Government, because he had represented that the resolution before the House attributed the fall of Kars exclusively to the Government. The resolution, if it had gone to that extent, would certainly not have had his support; but, as it only asserted that the want of energy and foresight of the Government had contributed to the fall of Kars, he believed that the charge contained in the resolution was true, and he should, therefore, give it his support. He did not, however, concur in the blame that had been cast upon the despatches of Lord Clarendon (Hear, hear). On the contrary, he believed that many of those despatches were most excellent; and, if letter-writing could have saved Kars, he believed that Kars would never have fallen through any fault of Lord Clarendon. The hon. Baronet, having reviewed the question at some length, contended that ammunition and provisions might have been easily thrown into the city, despite the presence of the Russian army; that the expenditure of £100,000 or £200,000 of the £5,000,000 guaranteed by the House would have been sufficient for the purpose, and ought to have been forwarded without waiting for a compliance with tedious forms; that no Asiatic Pacha could have treated General Williams's application for surgeons with more lazy indifference than Lord Panmure had done; and that the troops captured at Kars had found Russian magnanimity better than English care (Hear, hear).

Mr. V. Smith, in opposition to the motion, said that as the debate had resolved itself into an attack on Lord Panmure and Lord Clarendon, it would have been a more generous proceeding if the resolution had been brought forward in the House of Lords, where the noble Lords who were accused would have an opportunity of personally defending themselves. With regard to the fall of Kars itself, he insisted that it was no triumph for the Russians; and that the Government had done all in their power to avert that fall, by sending out a British Commissioner.

Mr. Vansittart was understood to condemn the conduct of the Government.

Captain Laffan opposed the motion. Colonel Dunne said he had no doubt but that the fall of Kars rested on the War Department of the Government.

Mr. Cowan gave his cordial support to the Government.

Mr. Liddell supported Mr. Ker Seymour's amendment.

Sir J. Graham said that he had been in considerable doubt as to the vote he should give on the question before the House; but remembering the difficulties with which the Government had had to deal, he should give them the benefit of the doubt, and oppose the motion. The right hon. Baronet passed a high eulogium on the character of the late Lord Raglan, and defended the Government of Lord Aberdeen who had made arrangements in the event of the first bombardment of Sebastopol being successful to send a large army into the Asiatic frontier. Although he considered some portions of the conduct of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe were reprehensible, the House and the country ought not to forget the important and valuable services that he had rendered. Having paid the tribute of his admiration to the noble defence and patient endurance of General Williams at Kars, he concluded by stating that he would neither vote for the motion nor the amendment.

Mr. Disraeli denied that the supporters of the motion were influenced by anything like factious motives, or a wish to upset the Government; and contended that the subject, being one of universal interest, demanded the fullest discussion and investigation.

Lord J. Russell vindicated the course which he had taken when in office, and gave his warm support to the Government.

Lord Palmerston replied to the charges that had been brought against the Government, and reiterated the arguments which had already been advanced by some of his colleagues.

Mr. Whiteside having replied, The House divided first on the amendment of Mr. K. Seymour. The numbers were—

For the amendment	52
Against	451
Majority against Mr. K. Seymour's amendment ..	399
The House then divided on the original motion. The numbers were—	
For Mr. Whiteside's motion	176
Against	303
Majority in favour of the Government ..	127

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING.—A Form of Prayer and Thanksgiving to Almighty God, to be used in all churches and chapels throughout those parts of the United Kingdom called England and Ireland, on Sunday, the 4th day of May, 1856, being the day appointed by proclamation for a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God, for His great goodness in putting an end to the war in which we were engaged against Russia:—Almighty and merciful Father, who by Thine overruling Providence dost govern the nations upon earth: We Thine unworthy servants desire to approach Thee this day with the voice of praise and thanksgiving. We bless Thy holy name for the success with which Thou hast crowned the arms of our Sovereign and her Allies in a perilous and destructive warfare; for inspiring our forces, both by sea and land, with a courage and endurance which neither the numbers nor the bravery of those opposed to them could overcome. But chiefly we acknowledge it to be of Thy great goodness that Thou hast caused strife and contention to cease, and hast restored the blessings of peace to Europe. Praise be Thy Name for this and all Thy mercies. Grant that every renewal of Thy lovingkindness towards our country may lead us to unfeigned thankfulness, and dispose us to walk more humbly and devoutly before Thee, by following Thy holy will and commandments, and by promoting whatever may tend to the increase of true religion and virtue throughout the land. Unite all ranks of men amongst us in the bonds of brotherly love and Christian charity; endue them with a spirit of piety and justice, of industry and temperance, that the blessings which we have long enjoyed may be continued to us and our posterity. We further beseech thee, O Lord, that the nations who have been engaged in the late contest, and are now relieved from the dangers and calamities of war, may seek and pursue those things which make for a people's happiness and welfare, by the maintenance of righteous laws, by the furtherance of kindly intercourse one with another, and, above all, by the cultivation of true and undefiled religion, to the end that, through the tranquillity now happily restored, the Redeemer's kingdom may be enlarged, and the nations of the world united in striving to exalt and magnify Thy glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Archdeaconry.* The Hon. and Rev. H. R. Yorke to Huntingdon. *Rectories:* The Rev. J. Walker to Averham with Kelham, near Newark; Rev. T. Fell to Great and Little Sheepy, Leicestershire; Rev. J. Irving to Brotherton, near Milford Junction, Yorkshire; Rev. C. W. M. Bartholomew to Glypton, near Woodstock; Rev. W. R. Collett to Hethersett, near Wymondham, Norfolk; Rev. S. Brown, Hasleford, Leicestershire. *Vicarages:* The Rev. G. F. Deedes to Haydon, near Sleaford, Lincolnshire; Rev. R. Rokeby to Preston Deanery, Northamptonshire; Rev. J. Power to Littleington, near Royston; Rev. F. M. Stanley to Middlezeay, near Bridgwater. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Pearson to Altcar, near Lancashire; Rev. O. K. Prescott to St. John's Church, Dukinfield; Rev. E. B. Compton to St. Giles's, Hillesley, Gloucestershire; Rev. W. H. G. Stephens to St. John's Church, Darlington; Rev. H. G. Jebb to Rowley, Derbyshire; Rev. R. Skinner to St. Andrew's Church, Fife; Rev. T. Hassall to Shelford, near Cambridge; Rev. W. C. Macfarlane to Dorchester, near Oxford; Rev. W. Owen to St. Stephen's Church, Tonbridge; Rev. C. D. Marston to Christ Church, Dover.

The Rev. Henry Melvill, the newly-appointed Canon of St. Paul's, will not preach in the metropolitan cathedral until early in July, when the reverend gentleman comes into his first "month of residence."

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE Peace procession on Tuesday last should have been reserved for Thursday: the Earl Marshal of England, with his attendant heralds, might then have mixed not inappropriately with Jack-in-the-Green and his attendant May-day merry-makers. Or it might have been postponed to the 9th of November, and made a part of the City procession of the new Lord Mayor. It was the fault of the Ministry it was not better. Processions of State are not impromptu matters, even on the stage. Ask Mr. Charles Kean if he is so? The whole affair reminded us of a passage in Fielding. "I am convinced," he writes, "that awful magistrate Lord Mayor contracts a good deal of that reverence which attends him through the year by the several pageants which precede his pomp. Nay, I must confess that even I myself, who am not remarkably liable to be captivated with show, have yielded not a little to the impressions of much preceding state. When I have seen a man strutting in a procession, after others whose business hath been only to walk before him, I have conceived a higher notion of his dignity than I have felt on seeing him in a common situation." Who conceived a higher notion of the Earl Marshal of England or of the High Bailiff of Westminster from the pageant they or their subordinates were seen in on Tuesday last?

People are asking if the Peace is to give us an ode from the Poet Laureate. We are told not. The subject is one which might well inspire a poet; but the muse of Mr. Tennyson is not in the vein. Perhaps this true poet is afraid of some of those parodies with which the efforts in verse of his predecessors in the laurel were greeted by a public in a mood for laughter. Who has forgotten the famous imitation of Poet Laureate Cibber?—

Old Battle-array, big with horror, is fled,
And olive-robed Peace again lifts up her head.

A true poet brought over the Treaty of Peace at Ryswick, and received two hundred guineas for his pains. This poet was Matthew Prior.

It is untrue that Lord Palmerston has gone to the last pages of a popular living author for a precedent for his Peace announcements in London. How admirably has Mr. Macaulay painted in his fourth volume the arrival in London of the news of the Peace of Ryswick! "Instantly a flag was hoisted on the Abbey, another on St. Martin's Church. The Tower guns proclaimed the glad tidings. All the spires and towers from Greenwich to Chelsea made answer. It was not one of the days on which the newspapers ordinarily appeared; but extraordinary numbers, with headings in large capitals, were for the first time cried about the streets. The price of Bank Stock rose from eighty-four to ninety-seven. In a few hours triumphal arches began to rise in some places; huge bonfires were blazing in others. The Dutch Ambassador informed the States-General that he would try to show his joy by a bonfire worthy of the commonwealth which he represented; and he kept his word; for no such pyre had ever been seen in London. A hundred and forty barrels of pitch roared and blazed before his house in St. James's-square, and sent up a flame which made Pall-mall and Piccadilly as bright as at noonday." Nor is the Chancellor of the Exchequer (though an historian himself) about to follow historical precedent in the matter of the peace. The fireworks in London for the Peace of Ryswick cost (says Mr. Macaulay) twelve thousand pounds; the fireworks in London for the Peace just concluded will cost (says Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer) only eight thousand pounds. Consider the difference in the value of money between 1697 and 1856, and £8000 will appear too little for an effective display.

Next Monday will no doubt tell us what the nation has bought from the two days' sale (on Friday and Saturday) of the two hundred and twenty-five pictures comprising (with three exceptions bequeathed to the nation) the entire collection of pictures of the poet Rogers. Artists and connoisseurs differ among themselves and with one another respecting the particular lots which the nation should bid for. Men unduly attached to the Venetian school cry out for the purchase of the Tintoret and the Paul Veronese. Others who worship early art are eager for the purchase of the Lorenzo di Credi. Not a few—and those good judges—would reserve the nation's money for the Orleans Raphael, "The Madonna Embracing the Infant." Much may be said, of course, in favour of the several pictures recommended. But it appears to us, and to many others, that for the British nation to miss securing the "Puck" and the "Strawberry Girl" would be a national and a lasting disgrace. We have not too many fine pictures of the English school that we can afford to let them slip through our hands when they occur for sale.

The biographers describe in very enthusiastic language the beauties of a folio volume of fifty photographs by fifty different hands, and those of eminence, to which Mr. Whittingham, of Chiswick, has attached fifty pages of letterpress of corresponding beauty. The volume is a present to her Majesty, and is one of fifty-two copies of a series of photographs made by the members of the Photographic Club—a newly-established club akin to the old Etching Club, and instituted to advance and record the progress of the art of photography. This is their first volume, and most wonderfully does it exhibit the progress which photography has made in England during the past year. Each of the fifty members sends fifty-two impressions of what he considers to be his best photograph with a description of the process used in obtaining it. Fifty copies are distributed among the fifty; the fifty-first is offered to her Majesty, and the fifty-second presented to the British Museum. Very wonderful, indeed, are some of the photographs in this very beautiful volume. We would especially point out as perfect in their truth to nature and adherence to art Mr. Batson's "Babbicombe Bay," Mr. Henry Taylor's "Lane Scene," Mr. Llewellyn's "Angler," Mr. Bedford's "Flowers," Mr. Delamotte's "Innocence," Dr. Diamond's "Interior of Holyrood," Mr. Henry Pollock's "Windsor Castle," Mr. Mackinlay's "Bodiam Castle," Mr. White's "Garden Chair," and Mr. John Stewart's appropriate vignette to the volume—the portrait of Sir John Herschel.

Tell it not in Glasgow for the present—but the citizens of that fair city of the West are about to fill with stained glass some of the principal windows of their noble cathedral—the only perfect cathedral in Scotland. When the chill of sameness is a little subdued—which the stained glass will materially contribute to—the citizens of Glasgow will be enabled to point with additional pride to their fine cathedral. Unlike the cathedrals of England, the care of Glasgow Cathedral belongs to the Crown; in other words, to the Commissioners of Works and Public Buildings. A fee is still charged for admission. This should be discontinued, and the cathedral at once thrown open to the public. In the House the other night Mr. Gladstone, we observed, complained—and properly complained—of the toll of sixpence that was levied upon him at the gates.

The guarantee fund for the Exhibition at Manchester in 1857 of the Art Treasures of the United Kingdom amounts already to £60,000. The Mayor and the rest of the subscribers have solicited an interview with Prince Albert on the subject. To reveal for the present anything more about the scheme than what we have already told would still be premature. Next week we may possibly tell all that is then known about it.

Mr. Murray announces a new Biographia Britannica. He has, therefore, wisely abandoned a much wider scheme—a new Universal Biographical Dictionary. The old Biographia Britannica, in seven folio volumes, is still a standard work. By narrowing his scheme he is surer of success. The Messrs. Black of Edinburgh announce for the close of the present month the third volume of Dr. Rogers' "Modern Scottish Minstrel." A preliminary essay on "Scottish and Hellenic Minstrelsy," by Mr. Donaldson, the learned author of the "Lyra Græca" and the "Modern Greek Grammar," is likely to prove an attractive feature of the volume.

We are not very great admirers of colossal busts. Even Chantrey was not good at them; but there is much to admire in a large bust of the Queen, just executed by Mr. Noble for the Townhall at Manchester. Mr. Noble has had every opportunity of executing a clever bust of her Majesty; and he has succeeded, as the Manchester people will soon discover.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The illustrious new singer, Mdlle. Piccolomini, who is to be the great attraction of Her Majesty's Theatre, is a descendant of the family of which Pope Pius Piccolomini was a member—a family that was formerly one of the wealthiest of the Italian aristocracy. Her ancestry includes two Popes and several Cardinals, besides Bishops, Field Marshals, poets, and historians. The present possessor of the name has already commenced her reign; the acknowledged Queen of Song in Italy, the "divine land," she has been hailed by the general voice of the people, and crowned with a thousand laurels. Piccolomini made her first appearance in public four years ago, at the age of sixteen, at the Pergola, Florence. In the short period that has elapsed since that event she has achieved one of the most brilliant reputations of the day, and gathered around her a crowd of enthusiastic admirers. Her recent reception at her native town of Siena is unexampled in the history of the stage. On each successive night she occasioned transports of enthusiasm, such as a Queen might envy; wreaths and bouquets falling at her feet in showers until she stood, as an Italian critic expressed it, in the midst of a "little garden." At the conclusion of her last performance the youth of the country escorted her home through the town in triumph, amidst the blaze of torches and the fanfare of drums and fife. Along this very road Pius II. passed four hundred years before, followed by a crowd of enthusiasts who kissed the trace of his sandals, and accompanied him to the gates of the Palais Piccolomini. The Pontiff was borne from the Duomo to his palace—the singer from the Opera to the same princely mansion; the one bore on his reverend head a tiara, the other on her young forehead a crown of laurels. Pius Piccolomini exercised spiritual sway over the greater part of Christendom; Marie, a descendant of his noble house, moves multitudes to tears by the eloquence and music of her voice. The fame of her triumph has spread far and wide, and the theatres of Europe contest the honour of receiving her. Thanks however, to the zeal of Mr. Lumley, it is upon Her Majesty's Theatre that this honour will first of all devolve. In a few weeks La Piccolomini will appear on the boards of that magnificent Opera-house, warbling the "Traviata."

MADAME BOSIO, who was prevented by sudden illness from appearing on the boards of the Lyceum on Tuesday last week in her favourite part of *Adina*, in the "Elisir d'Amore," did appear on Thursday, and repeated the same character on Saturday and Tuesday last. All traces of her indisposition had vanished: she was as captivating, and sang as brilliantly, as ever. On those nights the house was full, and there were displays of rank and fashion worthy of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S second concert of the season took place on Monday last, and was, if possible, even more successful than the first. The programme (which was as follows) was made up of gems of the purest water:—

PART I.			
Sinfonia in G minor	.. ..	.. ..	Mozart.
Duetto, "Folgs dem Freunde," Madame Viardot and Herr Formès	.. ..	.. ..	Spohr.
(Faust)	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Concerto in D minor, Pianoforte, Madame Clara Schumann	.. ..	.. ..	Mendelssohn.
Aria di Bravoura, "Mi paveniti," Madame Viardot (Britannico)	.. ..	.. ..	Graun.
Overture (Jessonda)	.. ..	.. ..	Spohr.
PART II.			
Sinfonia Pastorale	.. ..	.. ..	Beethoven.
Aria, "Solche hergelaube Laufen," Herr Formès (Die Entführung aus dem Serail)	.. ..	.. ..	Mozart.
Overture (Anacreon)	.. ..	.. ..	Cherubini.
Conductor—Professor Sterndale Bennett.			

Every piece, instrumental and vocal, was a *chef-d'œuvre* of a great master. Nothing mediocre was admitted—no crude jejune work of the day was brought forward in deference to the cuckoo cry of "novelty;" and the performance in every instance was worthy of the music. Professor Bennett is now quite at home in his new and responsible position. To his well-known skill and judgment he joins self-possession and firmness. From the band he meets with respectful attention, and he wields his "hundred hands" with the utmost facility. The two symphonies, so happily contrasted, and each so exquisite in its peculiar style—the refined and classical "G minor" of Mozart, and the picturesque "Pastorale" of Beethoven—were never, probably, more beautifully played, nor gave greater delight to an audience. Madame Schumann's performance of Mendelssohn's concerto was the very perfection of pianoforte-playing—it was inspired by the genius of the composer himself. She was listened to in breathless silence, broken only by enthusiastic bursts of applause. It is gratifying to find that this gifted lady has been received in England in a manner worthy of her deserts. She has been most warmly welcomed in the best musical circles, and engagements pour upon her both in London and the provinces. At one of the great Manchester concerts last week she made a sensation as remarkable as in the metropolis. Such a reception in England must be soothing to a feeling mind so sorely tried with domestic sorrow. The *aria di bravura* from Graun's "Britannico," sung by Madame Viardot, in addition to its excellence, is a musical curiosity, discovered by the fair singer herself. Graun, kapellmeister to Frederick the Great, was one of the greatest German composers of the last century. His name to this day is regarded in Germany as Handel's is in England, and his "Der Tod Jesu" stands side by side with the "Messiah." Music for the stage is made of more perishable materials, and his numerous oratorios, written for the Royal Theatre of Berlin, have been long since forgotten. This air, from one of these forgotten operas, is an interesting specimen of the German musical stage a hundred years ago. It is not merely a brilliant bravura, but full of energy and passion; and Madame Viardot—the greatest mistress living of the grand Italian school in which she and her sister Malibran were educated—sang it as only herself could sing it. Its impression on the audience was extraordinary—surprise at its quaintness, and admiration of its beauty and its marvellous execution. Formès sang the grand air from the "Entführung aus dem Serail" with his usual power and effect. The room was crowded to the doors, and numbers were content to sit and listen to the music in the ante-room.

THE MUSICAL UNION had a brilliant meeting on Tuesday morning. M. Franchomme, the celebrated French violoncellist, who had appeared there a short time before, came a second time from Paris for the sole purpose of appearing there again. The concerted music was again calculated to display his fine talents, his beautiful tone, delicacy, and expression, for which purpose Haydn's quartet in G minor, No. 33, Beethoven's pianoforte trio in E flat, Op. 70, and the same composer's quintet in C, were most happily chosen. M. Franchomme also played a charming little solo of his own. The other "executants" (as Mr. Ella calls them) were Messrs. Sainton, Cooper, Hill, Goffrie, and Hallé. Madame Schumann is again to perform at the next concert, on the 13th of this month.

COSTA'S "Eli" was repeated by the SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY on Friday last week, to an immense and overflowing audience. The performance differed in some particulars from those which had preceded it in the same place. The principal soprano part was now sung for the first time by Madame Clara Novello, for whom (it is understood) the part was originally intended by the composer, but Madame Novello was prevented from singing it at Birmingham by her quarrel (which we noticed at the time) with the Festival Committee. This may account for its being now assigned to her, instead of Madame Rudersdorf, who had sung it, at all the preceding performances, to the entire satisfaction of the public, and (as we have reason to know) of the composer himself. The contralto part (*Samuel*) was sung, for the first time in London, by Madame Viardot, who sustained it at Birmingham. And the same thing was the case with the part of *Eli*, originally sung at Birmingham, and now for the first time in London, by Formès. The tenor part has hitherto been *always* sung by Sims Reeves. He will be a bold man who shall venture to sing it after him.

The rising young pianist, Mr. Harold Thomas, has been elected a Professor and Associate of the Royal Academy of Music.

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS.—The production of Shakspeare's "Winter's Tale," with proper scenic accessories and illustrations, took place as announced on Monday evening, and was most enthusiastically received by a fashionable and distinguished audience—her Majesty being present. The house was excessively crowded, but the utmost attention prevailed. Mr. Kean's taste has produced results which must be highly satisfactory to every judicious mind. The play was well selected for spectacular interpretation, for not only does it overflow with the most exquisite poetry, but as a drama it is full of interest and character—touching, various, and picturesque; and was evidently designed by the author himself for the introduction of pageantry. The hints for this are extant on the poet's page. Thus in the pastoral scenes of the fourth act Shakspeare directs the introduction of "twelve Rustics habited like satyrs," a suggestion which has not yet been realised in any of the recent productions of the play. Mr. Kean has taken advantage of

the circumstances for introducing a Dionysian revel, and has carried it out most admirably, painting the Bacchant enthusiasm and maddoes to the life, and stimulating the spectator with the inspiration of orgies the classical of which preserves their "beauty as a joy for ever," and gives even to animal appetite the consecration of genius. Another opportunity has been taken in regard to the *Chorus*, under the name of "Time," with which Shakspeare directs the fourth act to commence, in order to account for the lapse of sixteen years. Mr. Kean has chosen the classical figure of *Chronos*, surmounting the ascending globe, and associated with kindred pictorial conceptions, allegorical in their nature, personifying *Luna* and the stars, as sinking before the chariot of *Phœbus*, which rises in all its glory—the figures being supplied by the antique and the works of Flaxman. Great use is made throughout the performance, of *tableaux vivants*, which serve to inaugurate the sustained scenes, and present the manner of life among the Greeks and in Asia Minor, as we have already stated, adopting the suggestion of Sir Thomas Hamner. Mr. Kean, instead of Bohemia, has accepted Bithynia as the place intended by the poet and the novelist—a good suggestion on many accounts, and enabling the manager to present the pastoral peculiarities and social condition of that primitive state. Here the costumes are very skillfully chosen, and the introduction of camels, sheep, and goats, add a picturesque beauty to the scenic panorama, much to be commended. Nor are the manners of Sicily and Syracuse left without copious illustration. Witness the pyrrhic dance, as introduced at the feast solemnized prior to the departure of *Polixenes*, with its accompanying music, all appropriately in keeping. The "Hymn to Apollo" is played during the progress of the banquet; and the authority of Dr. Burney and others is accepted for the style and character of the music in general. We have especially to commend the arrangement of the trial scene, which is made to take place in the theatre of Syracuse before the assembled people, and is accompanied with the solemnities of religion, and consecrated by the presence of an altar and the Ark of the Oracle. Instead of breaking up this scene at the termination of the trial, as is commonly done, the set is properly continued to the re-entrance of *Paulina*, and its sacred accessories are called into play for aiding the histrionic business of the situation. This scene is indeed very beautiful, perfect, and complete. Information on the subject of the music is very sparse; but the utmost has been made of it by Mr. J. L. Hatton, to whom the public are indebted for the overture, *entr'actes*, and incidental airs, that add to the graces of the present performance. While mentioning the names of persons whose talents or learning have conducted to the various beauties of this dramatic diorama, we may add that Mr. Kean acknowledges the aid received by him from Geo. Godwin, Esq., F.R.S., who has superintended the architectural portions, and from Geo. Scharf, Esq., Jun., F.S.A., who has contributed many of the most important general details throughout, and in particular his private drawings, taken on the spot, of the vegetation peculiar to Bithynia; thus devoting them to the grateful and genial purpose of illustrating this great Shakspearian revival. We might have said "the greatest," without exaggeration, for not only has Mr. Kean surpassed his former efforts in the accuracy and splendour of the *mise en scène*, but the acting of the drama throughout is worthy of the occasion.

Mr. Charles Kean's representation of *Leontes* is one of those minute studies in which, as in his great Shakspearian characters and his *Louis XI.*, he stands unrivalled. Shakspeare has been careful, by altering many of the details in Robert Greene's novel, to lend a dignity to the part which is not to be found in the "Ducastus and Fawnia," and thus to preserve for him a title to our respect, notwithstanding his groundless jealousy. Mr. Kean has been mindful of this, and was rightfully solicitous to display at full the sentiment of justice with which the most harsh of his actions was attended. The moral greatness of the King, however, comes out in his repentance, in which we see the truly loving man, who had been so sorely tried for the habitual want of discipline in regulating the passions to which he was liable. We know of nothing finer on the modern stage than Mr. Kean's interpretation of the banquet scene in the first act. His fondness for his boy *Mamilius*, expressed in tones of the most exquisite pathos, went to the heart of the audience. Perhaps there is no scene superior to this in all the range of the great characters which Mr. Kean has made his own; the hero has to perform a double part—to amuse his child, while watching with jealous eagerness his wife's behaviour to *Polixenes*. His sudden exclamation, intended alike as a relief to his own feelings and a rebuke to *Hermione*, "Are you my boy, *Mamilius*?" was startling from its cruel meaning and terrible accent. In the subsequent conversation with *Camillo*, and the concluding soliloquy, Mr. Kean attained a climax of eloquent declamation, and retired amidst prolonged and well merited plaudits.

Mrs. Kean's *Hermione* was always a great performance. It has lost nothing of its remarkable pathos, and has gained much by the beauties that are now added. The new arrangements of the stage give rise to new developments of action, and in all these Mrs. Kean manifested a delightful originality, and a truth of feeling that at once penetrates the heart. Her intuitions are ever in fine harmony with the grace and sentiment of nature; and her expression of them is set off by an elocution the music of which is inimitable. There are tones in this which entrance and take captive the soul that is at all capable of sensibility. Her wooing of *Polixenes* to prolong his visit was irresistible; her various appeals to her husband were full of sweetness and dignity; her defence on her trial was as feminine as it was powerful. But we must pass on to her statue scene. The pose was wonderful. The stage had vanished; substituted for it was indeed a gallery of the highest art, with its one image, and that one divine. We might here close our criticism; but it would be doing injustice to Miss Heath not to record that her *Floriel* was the best we ever witnessed; and to Miss Carlotta Leclercq, not to express our unqualified approbation of her *Perdita*. Nor must Mr. Harley's *Autolycus* be forgotten—the same we saw it twenty years ago, yet still fresh, vigorous, and effective. Mr. Ryder, as *Polixenes*, was still himself, and acted with force and majesty. Mr. Meadows, in the *Old Shepherd*, was as usual rich and racy. Nor was Mrs. Terman without special merit in *Paulina*—a part well adapted for her natural powers. This magnificent revival must become extensively popular, and maintain its position on the stage for a long period. The scenery, painted under the direction of Mr. Grieve, is throughout in the highest style of pictorial art.

DRURY LANE.—Pictures of American life, in order to be appreciated, require some knowledge of the originals portrayed. This, perhaps, is the reason why the performances of Mr. and Mrs. Florence at this theatre have not yet received all the attention they deserve. Mrs. Florence is, we are told, the first American comic actress who has appeared on the English boards. The character she has assumed is that of the "Yankee Help;" a character so different from the British servant that the representation must be taken on trust. It is, however, in itself, droll enough and amusing enough; but it is chiefly as an "oddy" that it strikes the ordinary observer. To realise its true and full interest, that odity must be accepted as an example of national character. The piece in which Mrs. Florence and her husband appear is an American farce, entitled "The Yankee Housekeeper." The former acts a Yankee girl from Maine, by name *Peg Ann Mchitable Higginfluter*, who takes a situation as help, immediately makes herself at home, makes also a lover of her fellow-servant, *Barney O'Connor*, performed by Mr. Florence (and which we are instructed to accept as the type of the Irish peasant in Ireland), and, moreover, constitutes herself the confidante of all the intriguants in the house, for a money consideration, which she previously exacts as the condition of her services. In this Mrs. Florence evinces excessive activity, and all the go-ahead qualifications which enter into the general American character, and which are supposed to be combined and intensified in that of the Irish help. She sings also two exceedingly funny songs, which were on Tuesday vehemently encored; and, indeed, the violent humour of the entire assumption excited the house to much hilarity. There is in Mrs. Florence's countenance little if any expression; but the true Yankee style in which she "bobs" about and "sides" up to the various parties she desires to cajole is altogether so *outré* and extravagant that the humour is irresistible. The two songs introduced are likely to become very popular; and some of the eccentric actions indulged in by Mrs. Florence may, we think, prove as attractive as "jumping Jim Crow." They are much of the same cast of thing; and we see no reason why they should not be equally successful.

LOLA MONTES.—A great fracas recently occurred at Lola Montes' theatre in Sydney. Madame Montes herself essayed several times to quell the uproar. She said, for her own part she cared not—"she rather liked a row than not;" but she would appeal to their kindness and gallantry to allow the piece to proceed. She hoped the gentlemen of Sydney had sufficient gallantry to yield to the wishes of a lady. Those who had not could have their money returned; they would leave. Her appeal was vain, and the disturbance was not suppressed for a considerable time, the actors having increased the uproar by squabbling on the stage.

SETTLERS WANTED FOR SARDINIA.—The Chamber of Deputies of Turin, in its sitting on the 22nd, concluded the debate on the alienation of 60,000 hectares (150,000 acres) of crown lands for settlers in the island of Sardinia. It added an article by which foreign settlers shall be entitled to the rights of Sardinian citizenship after a five years' residence; for Italian settlers the term reduced to two years.



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—DANCE ON BOARD H.M.S. "CESAR," 91, C PT. ROBB.—FROM A SKETCH BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.—(SEE PAGE 467.)



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—ILLUMINATION OF THE FLEET.—DRAWN BY R. LEITCH.—(SEE PAGE 467.)

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

Of the three hundred pictures covering the four walls and four screens of the Exhibition opened on Monday last, in that favourite haunt of all who love a branch of the Fine Arts which the English people understand so truly—the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours—some thirty may be marked out as pre-eminently distinguished for their artistic excellences, as pictures which would have done honour to any past Exhibition, as drawings which would grace the walls of the most fastidious and well-furnished collector.

As we leave the room, a little fatigued but in no way tired, quit the Catalogue, and trust to memory for recalling what we have seen, some half-dozen pictures rush immediately to one's memory. And first and foremost we recur to "Her Majesty Reviewing the Wounded Coldstream Guards in the Hall of Buckingham Palace;" a very clever picture by that masterly designer and colourist, Mr. John Gilbert, properly placed in one of the central positions in the room, full of the best material to attract the attention of the artist, and of the thousands who must feel a pride and interest in so historical an event. Who would not wish to see, still more to possess, a picture representing Queen Elizabeth at Whitehall reviewing the sailors who returned from the defeat of the invincible Armada; or Queen Anne at St. James's Palace reviewing the wounded soldiers who fought under Marlborough at Blenheim? There is an air of truth in Mr. Gilbert's picture that arrests and retains attention. Some of the likenesses on the Court side of the picture are particularly happy; whilst the wounded soldiers themselves are all most faithful portraits from the heroes of the trenches before the once-thought impregnable Sebastopol. We hope this picture will be engraved, and in a size and style commensurate with its merits.

After Mr. Gilbert we must place the President, Mr. John F. Lewis, who has contributed a work in his well-known and admirable Eastern style—a picture abundantly full of detail and finish, with, perhaps, a little in that way to spare. It is a Frank encampment of a young English nobleman, "one of the modern time," who has naturalised himself—if we may believe Mr. Lewis—as much to Eastern life as Lady Mary Wortley Montagu or Lady Hester Stanhope. Mr. Lewis must be allowed to describe his own picture. He calls it "A Frank Encampment in the Desert of Mount Sinai, 1842, the Convent of St. Catherine in the distance; the picture comprising portraits of an English nobleman and his suite, Mahmoud, the Dragoman, &c.; Hussein, Sheikh of Gebel Tor, &c." It is almost impossible to believe that the hand of man could have caught with such exquisite taste and effect so much breadth of effect with such masterly detail of every kind, from a number of the *Quarterly Review* to the inmost feather of a bird. Are we wrong in thinking that the cords of the tent interfere with, and therefore injure, the effect of the whole composition?

As we walk along we ask ourselves, "And what of dear old David Cox?" "In his way excellent," we half audibly reply. "There is the power, but not the eyesight or the hand. Like the Minstrel of the Last Lay—

His hand has lost that sprightly ease
Which marked security to please.

He is blotchy, though true to nature notwithstanding." We are glad, however, to think that the younger Cox is gaining ground. That "Welsh Vale" of his, on your left as you enter (No. 3 or 4 in the Catalogue), has much of old David in the treatment, tone, and touch. The younger David Teniers became a better painter than old David Teniers. May young David Cox excel old David Cox.

The member who has improved the most during the past year is Mr. J. M. Richardson. He has been industrious too. How admirably he has caught, we mutter to ourselves, all the green and sunny delights of Italy! In some half-dozen Italian scenes in this Exhibition he has triumphantly carried water-colour art into the domains of oil.

In "sea-scapes" there is nothing so good in the whole Gallery as Mr. Duncan's "Oyster-dredging off the Mumbles Head," or its companion on the walls, Mr. Andrews's "Old Dutch East Indianman." In looking at these fine drawings we no longer miss that very clever artist and old support of the Gallery, Mr. Bentley.

And then we exclaim, how good is Hunt—not Henry, or John, or Leigh—but Mr. W. Hunt, of Bramley, near Basingstoke, Hants, he who is eternally painting the presents of the fine fruit he has made him, or cutting lilac or heads of red geranium to rival on cardboard the flowers themselves, or robbing birds' eggs and nests to copy them with such an air of truth that in a warm sun we expect that the shell of one egg at least will chip and begin to chirp! That nigger tambourine-boy, which he christens "An Itinerant" (it hangs on the far screen on your right), what a picture that is; and as for a "Little Bit of Mont Blanc," on one of the screens, Mr. Albert Smith must buy that.

After a successful flirtation in Spain, and a fresh courtship among the mountains of Wales, Mr. Topham has returned once more to his old love—Ireland. We have seldom seen him happier, or with a firmer or nicer touch. That "Youth and Age" of his (on the right screen as you enter) is a picture which will delight Mr. Dickens, in whose works Mr. Topham discovered the contrast he describes so truly.

After Mr. Richardson, the next successful stride has been made by the secretary, Mr. Jenkins; that gleamer crossing a stream calling to her little sister "Come along!" is one of the sweetest pictures in the whole collection. Very charming indeed is the expression on the face of the little girl as she stands on a stone in the stream, afraid to "go along." The two drawings entitled "Asleep" and "Awake," by the same artist, still linger with de light on our memories.

The best figure pictures not already mentioned are contributed by Mr. Burton, "Beggars of Ober Franken," and by Mr. Oakley, in a picture of three lovely girls, entitled the "New Song." In noble distances and fine effects there is nothing better than Mr. W. Smith's "Lake of Geneva," and Mr. Collingwood's "Sunrise on the Jungfrau." In meadows, and green-lane scenes, and salad nature, nothing so good as Mr. Davidson's "Hay-making," and Mr. George Fripp's "View near Southend, in Essex." In making effective touches, conveying more than meets the eye, Mr. Holland in some views in Venice is, indeed, a master. Carl Haag's "Pifferari" is, in its way, capital, but built a little too much on a picture of the same kind by Wilkie. In river scenery Mr. Branwhite—witness his "View on the River Teivi" (the Tawy, no doubt, of Dyer and Grongar-hill)—is a master of river effects. In the Watteau and Stothard line Mr. Dodgson is well up to his old reputation; and for bloodhounds and hawks and hunting in the days of "Henry and Emma," Mr. F. Taylor is still unrivalled.

We shall have something more to say about this Exhibition with the Engravings we are about to give from it.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE monster meeting at Chester stops the way next week, and continues from Tuesday to Friday. On the first day we have the Palatine Stakes, with Theodora Flyaway, Oltenitz, and Byrsa on its list; and the Mostyn Stakes, with Blinck Bonny, Lambourne, Saunter, and Matilda—the two last with 5 lb. extra. Rifleman, 8 st. 7 lb.; Typee, 8 st.; Scythian, 7 st. 12 lb.; Mischap, 6 st.; Yellow Jack, 5 st. 8 lb.; Hospitality, 5 st. 3 lb.; and One Act, 4 st. 13 lb., are lightly weighted in the Cup; but, provided a lad can be got to ride One Act, she ought, by her running with Fandango at York, to have the three top weights safe, though Scythian's chance of repeating his last year's performance is not very remote. Bird-in-Hand, Artillery, Omer Pacha, Mary Copp, Danube, Ellington, and Chesnut, are all in the Dee Stakes (which is a clear £700, and may shed some light on the Derby) on Thursday; and there are also an infinity of handicaps spread over the four days. Tavistock has fixed two days of racing on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the Londoners will have their steeplechases at Harrow on Saturday, where the line of country is generally a good deal better than the horses which run over it.

The racing at Newmarket First Spring has been of a dull character, and on Wednesday alone there were five walks-over. The only noticeable feature of the first day was the easy victory of Aphrodite's sister, Kalipyge, in the Rowley Mile Plate, for which Verdant Green did not appear. The Two Thousand Guinea race proved that Fazzoletto's trial with Bracken (who can run honestly enough at home) was a very true one, and Yellow Jack had to succumb by "half a length easily." The winner is a son of Orlando and Lord Derby's famous old mare Canezon, whose first-born, Paletot, won a race over the Beacon on the same afternoon. He was so large and coach-horse-like at two years old that John Scott dared not train him, and this was his maiden appearance. The Danebury horses, Milton and Enchanter, cut a wretched figure; and Porto Rico died away, as his brother Orinoco did in this race, about 200 yards from home. Bird-in-Hand was also among the unfortunates, and the race has gone far to weed the Derby of its aspirants. It seems the peculiarity of the three-year-olds of 1856 that they cannot stay a distance. The finest-looking of them, Vandermeulen by Van Tromp, may now be said to be the hope of the outside division; but he will not run for anything before the Derby, for which he is, we believe, to be ridden by Job Marson. Charlton is said to be engaged for Verdant Green; and Nat will ride for Scott's stable, whose Fly-by-Night hopes seem to be reviving again. It is

rumoured that John Osborne is to train for Lord Lonsdale, at Hambleton, in future; his "private-trainer" experiences with the late Lord Westminster were none of the luckiest, and, as far as we can hear, it was some time before he could make up his mind to entertain the proposition, as he has a very strong corps of employers, who will be very sorry to lose his services. Lord Lonsdale's horses were trained by him some years ago, before his Lordship's first retirement from the turf. The Ascot Cup has only nine entries; but Rifleman, Saucebox, Fandango, and Homily, represent the four-year olds, and Manganese, Rogerthorpe, and Sugar Plum the three-year olds, so that we shall have a race worthy of the Heath. The dam of Wild Dayrell has a Sweetmeat filly foal, yelet Sacharissa; and among other paddock news we may mention that a joint-stock stud farm is proposed at Newmarket, with 1000 shares of £100 each. The capital of the Rawcliffe Paddock establishment is only one-fourth that amount; and, thanks to the Flying Dutchman, the speculation so far is not an unprofitable one. Ouleton, Mr. Elwes's unfortunate 6000-guinea purchase, comes to the hammer at Tattersall's, on Monday, with the whole of that gentleman's racing stud.

THE DRUID has at last supplied a gap, which has long been felt in sporting literature, by his "Post and the Paddock," which was ushered into the world on May morning. The first of its thirteen chapters is entirely devoted to anecdotes of great hunters and hunting men, and enters fully into the subject of horse-dealers, prices, fairs, and the stud peculiarities of the three counties, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Shropshire, in which our great hunters are principally reared. Blood-stock, the history of the turf, trainers and jockeys, and Newmarket in the olden time, form the subject of distinct chapters; and we have also a complete racing memoir of George IV., and copious recollections of Lord Darlington, Mr. Thornhill, Sam Chifney, &c., besides anecdotes of Mr. Theobald, Parson Hervey, Dr. Bellyze, Mr. Orde, Parson Nanney Wynne, and scores of other quaint turf characters. Perhaps one of the most curious and generally interesting chapters in it is that which is devoted to the veteran horse-dealer, Mr. Kirby, of York, and his Russian experiences in the days of the Emperor Paul; although the author seems to have worked *con amore* on George IV. The "Cardsellers' Tonts and Augurs" are also made to furnish amusement in their turn; and the book, which has been written with no small care, and entirely divested of all slang, concludes with a long gossiping chapter on the betting ring, and its sayings and doings; not forgetting those strange and amphibious creatures, the listers. Independently of its remarks on hunting men and hunters, past and present, it possesses interest both for turfites, and those who wish out of mere curiosity to have a half-crown peep behind the scenes of the great and fascinating mystery of the race-course and "The Corner."

An allusion to Will Goodall and his daring riding in the above book reminds us that the hunting season of 1855-56 has been appropriately wound up by the presentation of a handsome cup to this rare huntsman at a public dinner in the Townhall at Grantham. The cup, which was furnished by Mr. Pearce, of that town, was a very handsome silver embossed one, lined with gold, holding about four pints, and weighing fifty ounces; but no part of it will be more precious in Will's eyes than the inscription, which tells how many warm friends united to do him honour for his enthusiasm and his science.

The fishers have not been a little successful of late, and we hear of three pike, two of them from the same pond, which weighed 30 lb., 29 lb., and 28 lb. respectively; while the Marquis of Bowmont played last week for nearly five hours with a salmon, and lost it at last by his line breaking. The London Unity Club have their first race on Monday; and we hear everywhere very good accounts of the coming season, although the system of yacht mensuration is still in rather a forlorn state. The Royal Thames Yacht Club, to which Viscount Bangor, owner of the *Lalla Rookh* schooner, 126 tons, has just been admitted, have, however, settled theirs at a quarter minute per ton. The yacht-builders are very busy in the three kingdoms; and, among new launches, we hear much of Sir P. Shelley's schooner-rigged vessel the *Extravaganza*.

NEWMARKET FIRST SPRING MEETING.—MONDAY.

Queen's Plate.—Homily, 1. Alas, 2. Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Ninette, 1. Oltenitz, 2. Plate of £50.—Tester, 1. Hersey filly, 2. Plate of £100.—Kalipyge, 1. Tynus, 2. Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Tyne, 1. Mr. Hufam, 2.

TUESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 300 sovs. each.—Paletot, 1. Joshua, 2. Handicap Plate of 70 sovs.—Curious, 1. Crown Pigeon, 2. Two Thousand Guinea Stakes.—Fazzoletto, 1. Yellow Jack, 2. Sweepstakes of 5 sovs. each.—Little Emma, 1. Plumpton Maid, 2. Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each.—Alastor, 1. Flying Duchess, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Selling Handicap Sweepstakes.—Flying Duchess, 1. Oltenitz, 2. Match, T.Y.C.—Palm, 1. Pyrrhus the First colt, 2. Sweepstakes, 10 sovs. each.—Virago colt, 1. The Western Power, 2. Handicap Plate.—Anemone, 1. Maid of Masham colt, 2. Sweepstakes, 100 sovs.—Tyre walked over. Sweepstakes, 50 sovs.—Porto Rico walked over. Match.—Petra received forfeit from Barcelona colt. Sweepstakes, 50 sovs.—Walmer walked over. Sweepstakes, 50 sovs.—Fandango walked over.

THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Jen d'Esprit, 1. Little Emma, 2. Sweepstakes.—Lord Nelson, 1. Irish Diamond, 2. One Thousand Guinea.—Manganese, 1. Mincepie, 2. Handicap Plate of £50.—Phyllis gelding, 1. Maid of Mill, 2. Jockey-Club Plate.—Fandango walked over. Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Tyre walked over. Match.—Alastor beat Barba colt.

GREAT WALKING MATCH.—At Newmarket, on Thursday, Spooner walked twenty miles in two minutes and forty seconds under the three hours.

DISTURBANCES IN SYRIA.—The Oesterreichische Correspondenz publishes advices, dated Beyrout, the 14th ult., which state that Naplous and the neighbourhood were in full insurrection, in consequence of the murder of a Turkish beggar by an Anglican missionary. The foreign Consulates had been ransacked, and the Prussian Consul massacred. The European Consuls were assembled at Beyrout in order to deliberate.

A well-known newsagent in Paris has been arrested by the police and lodged in prison, under a charge of participating in the abstraction of the State papers which have recently appeared in *Le Nord*.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

RUMOURS having been pretty current that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will shortly become a large borrower in the Money-market, much anxiety has been shown by some of the leading jobbers to get out of stock; the business doing in Consols has, therefore, been limited, so far as purchases are concerned, and prices have had a downward tendency. When we consider the enormous expenses yet to be met, it may, we think, be safely concluded that a new loan will be necessary; but it is tolerably clear that it will not be brought out for some weeks—certainly not till after the arrival of the gold now on passage from Australia—and that it will be chiefly in terminable annuities.

There has been a very active demand for money, and the rates of discount have been on the advance, although the supply of cash has been by no means limited. Very few bills are now taken in Lombard-street under 6 per cent; whilst money in the Stock Exchange is worth 6 to 7 per cent for short periods. Numerous applications have been made to the Bank of England.

The imports of gold, since we last wrote, have amounted to about £230,000 from Australia, 453,000 dollars from New York, and about £22,000 from the Continent. The arrivals of silver have been £18,000 from Antwerp, and £166,000 from Mexico, the West Indies, &c. About £250,000 of the late imports from Australia has been placed in the Bank of England; but we learn that there is still a demand for the Bank of France, notwithstanding that the exchanges are favourable to a return of specie to this country. There are now about £800,000 in gold on passage from Australia. It is stated that the produce of gold in Victoria, last year, was £11,656,292, or £3,085,496 in excess of 1854; but £3,010,600 below 1852.

Great flatness prevailed in the Consol-market on Monday, and prices generally were drooping.—The Reduced Three per Cents marked 90 to 91; the Three per Cent Consols, for Money, 91 to 92; the New Three per Cents, 92 to 94; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 75; Long Annuities, 1855, 17-16; Consols for Account, 92 to 93; India Bonds, 85 dis.; Exchequer Bills (June), 1s to 4s. dis.; Ditto (March), 2s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 93 to 94. On Tuesday the following quotations were realised.—Bank Stock, 212; New Three per Cents, 91; Long Annuities, 1850, 3; India Stock, 227 to 229; Consols for Account, 92 to 93; Exchequer Bills (March), 2s. dis. to 2s. prem.; Ditto, June, 6s. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, both series, 93. There was rather more firmness in the market on the following day, and prices were well supported.—Bank Stock marked 211 to 212; the Three per Cents Reduced were 90 to 91; Consols, 92 to 93; New Three per Cents, 91 to 92; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 75; Long Annuities, 1850, 3; Ditto, 1855, 17; Consols for Account, 92 to 93; India Bonds, 8s. dis.; Exchequer Bills (March), 2s. prem.; Do. (June), 3s. to 6s. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 93. Thursday was a close holiday in the Exchange; consequently no business was transacted.

The settlement of the Account has somewhat interfered with the transactions in the Foreign house, and the decline in Consols has had some influence upon

prices. Buenos Ayres Six per Cents have realised 61; Mexican Three per Cents, 21; Sardinian Five per Cents, 95; Spanish Three per Cents, 44; Ditto, New Deferred, 23; Ditto, Committee's Certificate of Coupon, 5 per cent; Turkish Six per Cents, 96 to 1 ex div.; Turkish Four per Cents (guaranteed), 100; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents, 83; Dutch Four per Cents, 93; ex div.; Ecuador Dollar Bonds, 59; Russian Five per Cents, 104; Brazilian New Four-and-a-half per Cents, 94.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been less active, yet there has been no disposition shown to effect sales at depressed quotations.—Australasian have marked 93; Bank of Egypt, 5; Bank of London, 64; City, 64; Commercial of London, 31; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16; London Chartered of Australia, 17; London and Paris, 7; London and Westminster, 48; Oriental, 42; Ottoman Bank, 5; Union of Australia, 70; Western Bank of London, 25.

Miscellaneous Securities have ruled heavy, as follows:—Australian Agricultural, 80; Canada Company's Bonds, 144; Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 111; Crystal Palace, 3; London Dock, 99; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 68; Royal Mail Steam, 73; Van Diemen's Land, 15; Victoria Docks, 104; Ditto, New, 9. Hungerford-bridge Shares have marked 8; Waterloo, New £7, 28; Vauxhall, 20.

All Railway Shares have been very dull, and prices have given way. The account has passed off well. The total "calls" for the present month are £349,276; making £6,791,123 for the present year. The following are the leading quotations of the week:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, Nottingham, and Boston, 4; Caledonian, 60; Chester and Holyhead, 15; East Anglian, 16; Eastern Counties, 10; Great Northern, 95; Lito, A Stock, 80; Ditto, B Stock, 125; Great Western, 62; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 88; London and Blackwall, 7; London and Brighton, 102; London and North-Western, 100; Ditto, Eighties, 1; London and South-Western, 95; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 23; Midland, 74; North British, 35; North-Eastern—Berwick, 77; Ditto, Leeds, 15; Ditto, York, 55; North Staffordshire, 11; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 27; Scottish Central, 103; Shropshire Union, 47; South-Eastern, 71; South Wales, 71; Waterford and Kilkenny, 47.

SHARES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Hull and Selby, 108; Wilt and Somerset, 84.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Chester and Holyhead, 16; East Anglian Seven per Cent, 99; Great Northern Four-and-a-half per Cent, 100; Great Western irredeemable Four per Cent, 90; Ditto, Birmingham Stock, 73; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 99.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8; Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 6; Buffalo and Lake Huron, 7; East Indian Five per Cent Extension, 7; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 14; Ditto, B issue, 17; Great Central of France, 22; Great Luxembourg, 7; Great Western of Canada, 26; Ditto, New, 9; Madras New Five per Cent, 104; Namur and Liege, with interest, 7; Northern of France, 42; Sambre and Meuse, 12; West Flanders, 43.

In Mining Securities little has been done. Australian have ruled at 1; Imperial Brazilian, 3; Ditto, Cocas and Cuaba, 2; Copiapo, 18; Linsres, 7; United Mexican, 3.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, April 28.—We had a moderate supply of English wheat on to-day's market, and its general quality was tolerably good. Most kinds sold to a good extent, and fine parcels realised 1s. per quarter more money compared with Monday last. Some rather large transactions took place in foreign wheat, and, in some instances, the quotations had an upward tendency. Floating cargoes of grain realised very full prices. We had a good demand for both barley and malt, at fully the late improvement in value. Oats sold at previous rates. Beans and peas were without animation; but Norfolk flour was firm, and the turn higher.

April 30.—The supplies of most articles in to-day's market were but moderate. Generally speaking the demand ruled heavy, at fully Monday's currency.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 59s. to 71s.; ditto, white, 61s. to 71s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 59s. to 69s.; rye, 47s. to 48s.; grinding barley, 33s. to 35s.; distilling 35s. to 40s.; malt, 41s. to 42s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 73s. to 75s.; brown ditto, 65s. to 68s.; Kingston and Ware, 73s. to 76s.; Cheviot, 88s. to 91s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 21s. to 22s.; potato ditto, 22s. to 25s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 18s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 19s. to 22s.; tick beans, 32s. to 35s.; vetch peas, 31s. to 35s.; maple, 42s. to 44s.; white, 38s. to 41s.; boilers, 40s. to 44s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 63s. to 65s.; Suffolk, 41s. to 45s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 42s. to 45s. per 280 lbs. American flour, 32s. to 37s. per barrel.

Straw.—The business doing in all kinds of seed is very moderate. Prices, however, ruled steady.

Livestock.English, crusting, 54s. to 55s.; Mediterranean, 52s. to 55s.; hempsed, 51s. to 55s. per quarter. Cornish, 22s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 14s. to 24s.; white, 10s. to 12s.; tares, 7s. to 8s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 88s. to 90s. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, 112s. to 112 1/2; ditto, foreign, 112 1/2 to 112 1/2; rape cakes, 10s. to 10s. 6d. per ton. Canary, 6s. to 6s. 6d. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 7d. to 8d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 67s. 11d.; barley, 39s. 11d.; oats, 23s. 4d.; rye, 40s. 3d.; beans, 41s. 4d.; peas, 39s. 3d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 65s. 8d.; barley, 38s. 8d.; oats, 23s. 7d.; rye, 43s. 7d.; beans, 41s. 2d.; peas, 38s. 11d.

English Grain Sold last Week.—Wheat, 97,938; barley, 37,921; oats, 11,267; rye, 32; beans, 5888; peas, 705 quarters.

Tea.—The public sales held this week have gone off without much change in price. By private contract about an average business is doing, at late rates.

Sugar.—For all kinds of raw sugar the demand has been less active; yet importers have continued firm and have withdrawn large parcels from the market. Barbadoes has sold at 38s. 6d. to 44s.; Jamaica, 39s. 6d. to 42s.; Demerara, 47s. to 43s. 6d.; Mauritius, 38s. to 41s.; Bengal, 40s. to 42s. 6d.; Madras, 34s. to 37s. 6d.; and Penang, 34s. to 40s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods have been tolerably firm, at 52s. to 55s. per cwt.

Coffee.—The demand in this article have been wholly confined to immediate wants; yet prices have been supported.

Rice.—A few parcels of Bengal have changed hands at 8s. to 10s. 6d. per cwt. The stock continues very large.

Provisions.—The demand for all kinds of butter—the supply of which has increased—must be considered heavy. Prices generally are lower. There is a good inquiry for bacon, at fully last week's quotations. Ham and lard support former terms.

Tallow.—Although the stock is decreasing, the demand is inactive. P.Y.C., on the spot, 46s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. down to 46s.; and for the last three months, 46s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow, 49s. net cash.

Oils.—Lined oil is in good request, at 30s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Most other oils move off heavily. Turpentine is very dull. English spirits, 30s.; American, 32s.; rough, 9s. to 9s. 6d.

Spirits.—There is a moderate demand for rum, and prices are fairly supported. Proof Leeward, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d.; East India, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. Brandy moves off slowly. Sales of Cognac, best brands of 1855, 10s. 1d. to 10s. 4d.; 1850 ditto, 10s. 5d. to 10s. 7d.; older, 10s. 10d. to 11s. 6d. per gallon. British-made spirit is firm; 17 underproof, 10s. 2d. underproof, 9s. 6d. per gallon. Geneva, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 8d. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 15s. 6d. to 15s. 10s.; clover ditto, 14s. 15s. to 16s. 10s.; and straw, 11s. 6d. to 11s. 10s. per load.

Coals.—Wylam, 15s. 6d.; Eden Main, 15s. 3d.; Haswell, 17s. 6d.; Hetton, 16s. 3d.; Stewart's, 17s. 6d.; Cassop, 16s.; Hartlepool, 17s. 3d.; Toes, 17s. 6d.; Whitworth, 16s. per ton.

Hops.—There is more business doing in this market, and fine qualities have advanced 5s. per cwt.

Wool.—Great firmness continues to prevail in the demand for this article. Prices generally are well supported.

Potatoes.—The supplies are large for the time of year, and in good condition. The demand is heavy, at 40s. to 90s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The beef trade has ruled heavy, and prices have given way 2d. to 4d. per 3 lbs. Lambs have fallen fully 4d. In the value of other stock very little change has taken place.

Butter. 25s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 8d.; lamb, 5s. 8d. to 6s. 8d.; veal 4s. 2d. to 5s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. to sink the offal.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—The trade generally has been steady, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.; veal, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 0d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

WAR DEPARTMENT, APRIL 25.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of the following officer of the Army of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, to be an Honorary Member of the Military Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, viz., M. George Eugene Blanchard, General of Division.

BANKRUPTS.

F. REYNOLDS, Old Broad-street, City, silk merchant.—C. KING, King-street, Portman-square, house and furniture dealer, and painter and glazier.—W. STUBBS, Birmingham, brass-founder.—R. BROWN, St. Helen's, Lancaster, tailor and draper.—J. SANDFORD, Hincley, Leicestershire, draper and mercer.—G. CHAMBERLAIN the younger, Crawford-street, Marylebone, lead-merchant, glass-cutter, plumber, painter, and glazier.—T. W. WINFIELD and F. C. CLARKE, Birmingham, factors.—J. B. FOLKARD, Jermyn-street, St. James, Westminster, tailor.—J. HALDANE, Leeds, corn-factor.—J. STYLES, Putney, waterman.—W. H. WOOLLETT and J. F. S. WOOLLETT, Lime-street-square, City, ship and insurance agents and commission merchants.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29.

BANKRUPTS.

J. DICKENSON, Cosham, near Portsmouth, licensed victualler.—L. BRODE, Noble-street, Cheap-side, and Compton-street, Brunswick-square, fancy box maker.—J. H. BRYAN, Lambeth-walk, Lambeth, oilman.—S. HOOK, Toyl, Kent, and Chalford, Gloucestershire, silk thrower.—E. TOMLINSON, Barnes Cray, Kent, indiarubber manufacturer.—SARAH WOOLDRIDGE, Winchester, butcher.—J. INKESOLE, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, brewer.—J. A. JOICE, Road-lane, Finchurch-street, merchant.—E. D. COOPER, Bowdley, Suffolk, grocer.—J. DAVIES, Shrewsbury, printer.—S. STONE, Lutetia, Gloucestershire, innkeeper.—T. WILLIAMS, Clifton-hill, Breconshire, grocer.—G. CLAYTON and G. CROOKES, St. Paul's, grocers.—J. WYLD, St. Paul's, licensed victualler.—E. LANE, New Ferry, Cheshire, merchant.—J. HYDE, Shrewsbury, grocer, and wine merchant.—R. GIBBELL, Ashtedon, der-Lyne, chemist.—B. FOISHER, New-castle-upon-Tyne and Widdow, chemist.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

HACKNEY.—M^{de}. Gassier, Mdle. Cleopatra Tornborg (the Swedish mermaid on the flute), Mdle. Gertrude (the infantine pianiste), Miss Mary Keeley, Miss Lascelles, Miss Swatt, Signor Bianchi, M^{de}. Gassier, and the Misses Case and Messrs. G. and J. Case. — Messrs. GEORGE CASE and W. YOUNG announce that their GRAND CONCERT, assisted by the above talented artists, will take place at the Manor Rooms, Hackney, on Tuesday Evening next, May 6. Reserved seats, 3s.; back seats, 2s. Hackney, 1s.; to be had at the libraries and at the rooms.

FROM ABBEY, and CASTLE, and TOWER—
from Rectory, Priory, Vicarage, and Parsonage—from Mansions
and Grange—from Palaces and Parks, and Cottage and Farm—
from the City, and from the Country, of approval, or of repro-
bation, from day to day received by Messdames MARION and MAITLAND,
expressing admiration of the style, quality, fit, and comfort of the
RESILIENT HODICE and CONSALTO DI MEDICI. These notes, and
the obvious evidence of sincerity, and in volume, opened the
eyes of the ladies. The interested prospect—she's, if transac-
tions, and the, and, to any lady, post-free. All country orders, and
correct—paid, or post-free. Messdames Marion and Maitland, Pa-

PIANOFORTES.—CRAMER, BEALE, and
CO. have the best of every description, by Erard, Broadwood,
and Collard, NEW and SECONDHAND, for SALE or HIRE.

GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY.—Elen. . .
 tary Collections, to facilitate the study of this interest-
 Science, can be had from Two Guineas to One Hundred



THE NAVAL REVIEW:—THE QUEEN'S YACHT PASSING FORT MONCKTON—DRAWN BY S. READ.—(SEE PAGE 467.)



THE NAVAL REVIEW.—THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY EMBARKING AT PORTSMOUTH.—SKETCHED BY R. LANDELLS.—(SEE PAGE 467.)

THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY OF PEACE.

(From the London Gazette Extraordinary of April 28.)

Foreign-office, April 28.

The Honourable William Stuart, First Attaché to her Majesty's Embassy at Paris, arrived this morning at the Foreign-office, being the bearer of the Ratification by their Majesties the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of all the Russias, the King of Sardinia, and the Sultan, of the definitive Treaty for the restoration of Peace, and for the maintenance of the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, which was signed at Paris on the 30th of March last.

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE AND THANKSGIVING.

(From a Supplement to the London Gazette Extraordinary of April 28.)

BY THE QUEEN.—A PROCLAMATION.

VICTORIA R.

Whereas a definitive Treaty of Peace and Friendship between us and our Allies and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias was concluded at Paris, on the 30th day of March last, and the ratifications thereof have now been duly exchanged, in conformity thereto, we have thought fit hereby to command that the same be published throughout all our dominions; and we do declare to all our loving subjects, our will and pleasure that the said Treaty of Peace and Friendship be observed inviolably, as well by sea as by land, and in all cases whatsoever; strictly charging and commanding all our loving subjects to take notice hereof, and to conform themselves thereunto accordingly.

Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, this 28th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1856, and in the 19th year of our reign.
God Save the Queen.

BY THE QUEEN.—A PROCLAMATION FOR A PUBLIC THANKSGIVING.

VICTORIA R.

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God, in his great goodness, to put an end to the warfare in which we have been engaged against the Emperor of Russia, and to restore Peace to Europe, we, therefore, adoring the Divine Goodness, and duly considering that the great and public blessings of Peace do call for public and solemn acknowledgments, have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to issue this Proclamation, hereby appointing that a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for these His mercies be observed throughout those parts of the United Kingdom called England and Ireland, on Sunday, the 4th day of May next; and we do earnestly exhort all our loving subjects that they do religiously observe the said public Day of Thanksgiving; and, for the better and more devout solemnisation of the same, we have given directions to the Most Reverend the Archbishops and the Right Reverend the Bishops of England, to compose a form of Prayer and Thanksgiving suitable to this occasion, to be used in all churches and chapels, and other places of public worship, and to take care for the timely dispersing of the same throughout their respective dioceses.

Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, the 28th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1856, and in the 19th year of our reign.
God Save the Queen.

BY THE QUEEN.—A PROCLAMATION FOR A PUBLIC THANKSGIVING IN SCOTLAND.

VICTORIA R.

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God, in his great goodness, to put an end to the warfare in which we have been engaged against the Emperor of Russia, and to restore Peace to Europe; we, therefore, adoring the Divine Goodness, and duly considering that the great and public blessings of Peace do call for public and solemn acknowledgments, have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to issue this Proclamation, hereby appointing that a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for these His mercies be observed throughout that part of the United Kingdom called Scotland, upon Sunday, the 4th day of May next; and we do earnestly exhort all our loving subjects in Scotland that they do reverently and devoutly observe the said Public Thanksgiving, on the said 4th day of May next. Our will and pleasure is, therefore, and we charge, that this our Proclamation seen, ye pass to the Market Cross of Edinburgh, and all other places needful, and there, in our name and under our authority, make publication thereof, that none pretend ignorance. And our will and pleasure is that our solicitor do cause printed copies of this our Proclamation to be sent to the Sheriffs of the several shires, Stewards of stewartries, and Bailiffs of regality, and their Clerks, whom we ordain to see the same published; and we appoint them to send copies thereof to the several Parish Churches within their bounds, that upon the Lord's Day immediately preceding the day above mentioned, the same may be published and read from the pulpits immediately after Divine service.

Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, the 28th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1856, and in the 19th year of our reign.
God Save the Queen.

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

We have received an official copy of the Treaty of Peace, which agrees with that published in our paper of the 26th ult. We now, therefore, supply the blank caused by the omission of the following clauses:—

Art. 5. Their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Emperor of the French, the Emperor of all the Russias, the King of Sardinia, and the Sultan, grant a full and entire amnesty to those of their subjects who may have been compromised by any participation whatsoever in the events of the war in favour of the cause of the enemy. It is expressly understood that such amnesty shall extend to the subjects of each of the belligerent parties who may have continued during the war to be employed in the service of one of the other belligerents.

Art. 6. Prisoners of war shall be immediately given up on either side.

Art. 7. Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, his Majesty the Emperor of the French, his Majesty the King of Prussia, his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and his Majesty the King of Sardinia, declare the Sublime Porte admitted to participate in the advantages of the public law and system (concert) of Europe. Their Majesties engage, each on his part, to respect the independence and the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire; guarantee in common the strict observance of that engagement; and will, in consequence, consider any act tending to its violation as a question of general interest.

Art. 8. If there should arise between the Sublime Porte and one or more of the other signing Powers any misunderstanding which might endanger the maintenance of their relations, the Sublime Porte and each of such Powers, before having recourse to the use of force, shall afford the other contracting parties the opportunity of preventing such an extremity by means of their mediation.

The following additional article has been rendered imperative by the necessity of transport, but was evidently an afterthought, consequent on a suddenly-suggested difficulty.

ADDITIONAL AND TRANSITORY ARTICLE.

The stipulations of the Convention respecting the Straits, signed this day, shall not be applicable to the vessels of war employed by the belligerent Powers for the evacuation by sea of the territories occupied by their armies; but the said stipulations shall resume their entire effect as soon as the evacuation shall be terminated.

Done at Paris, the 30th day of the month of March, in the year 1856.
(Here follow the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries.)

CONVENTIONS ANNEXED TO THE TREATY.

THE NAVIGATION OF THE DARDANELLES.

I. Convention between her Britannic Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Sardinia, on the one part, and the Sultan, on the other part, respecting the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus.

Signed at Paris, March 30, 1856.

[Ratifications exchanged at Paris, April 27, 1856.]

In the Name of Almighty God.

Their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of all the Russias, signing parties to the Convention of the 13th day of July, 1841; and his Majesty the King of Sardinia; wishing to record in common their unanimous determination to conform to the ancient rule of the Ottoman Empire, according to which the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus are closed to foreign ship of war, so long as the Porte is at peace;

Their said Majesties, on the one part, and his Majesty the Sultan, on the other, have resolved to renew the convention concluded at London on the 13th day of July, 1841, with the exception of some modifications of detail which do not affect the principle upon which it rests.

In consequence their said Majesties have named for that purpose as their Plenipotentiaries [Here follow the names]; who, after having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:—

Art. 1. His Majesty the Sultan, on the one part, declares that he is firmly resolved to maintain for the future the principle invariably established as the

ancient rule of his empire, and in virtue of which it has, at all times, been prohibited for the ships of war of foreign Powers to enter the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus; and that, so long as the Porte is at peace, his Majesty will admit no foreign ship of war into the said Straits.

And their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of all the Russias, and the King of Sardinia, on the other part, engage to respect this determination of the Sultan, and to conform themselves to the principle above declared.

Art. 2. The Sultan reserves to himself, as in past times, to deliver firmans of passage for light vessels under flag of war, which shall be employed, as is usual, in the service of the missions of foreign Powers.

Art. 3. The same exception applies to the light vessels under flag of war, which each of the contracting Powers is authorised to station at the mouths of the Danube in order to secure the execution of the regulations relative to the liberty of that river, and the number of which is not to exceed two for each Power.

Art. 4. The present convention, annexed to the general treaty signed at Paris this day, shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the space of four weeks, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Paris, the 30th day of the month of March, in the year 1856.

(Here follow the signatures.)

THE BLACK SEA.

II. Convention between the Emperor of Russia and the Sultan, limiting their Naval Force in the Black Sea.

Signed at Paris, March 30, 1856.

[Ratifications exchanged at Paris, April 27, 1856.]

In the name of Almighty God.

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, taking into consideration the principle of the neutralisation of the Black Sea established by the preliminaries contained in the protocol No. 1, signed at Paris on the 25th of February of the present year, and wishing, in consequence, to regulate by common agreement the number and the force of the light vessels which they have reserved to themselves to maintain in the Black Sea for the service of their coasts, have resolved to sign, with that view, a special convention, and have named for that purpose [here follow the names and titles at full length of Count Orloff and Asli Pacha]; who, after having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:—

Art. 1. The high contracting parties mutually engage not to have in the Black Sea any other vessels of war than those of which the number, the force, and the dimensions are hereinafter stipulated.

Art. 2. The high contracting parties reserve to themselves each to maintain in that sea six steam-vessels fifty metres in length at the lines of flotation, of a tonnage of eight hundred tons at the maximum, and four light steam or sailing vessels of a tonnage which shall not exceed two hundred tons each.

Art. 3. The present convention, annexed to the general treaty signed at Paris this day, shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the space of four weeks, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Paris the 13th day of the month of March, in the year 1856.

(Signed) Orloff, Brunnov, Aali, Mehmed Djemil.

THE ALAND ISLANDS.

III. Convention between her Britannic Majesty, the Emperor of the French, and the Emperor of Russia, respecting the Aland Islands.

Signed at Paris, March 30, 1856.

[Ratifications exchanged at Paris, April 27, 1856.]

In the name of Almighty God.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majesty the Emperor of the French, and his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, wishing to extend to the Baltic Sea the harmony so happily re-established between them in the East, and thereby to consolidate the benefits of the general peace, have resolved to conclude a convention, and have named for that purpose [here follow the names and titles of Lord Clarendon, Count Walewski, and Count Orloff]; who, after having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:—

Art. 1. His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, in order to respond to the desire which has been expressed to him by their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Emperor of the French, declares that the Aland Islands shall not be fortified, and that no military or naval establishment shall be maintained or created there.

Art. 2. The present convention, annexed to the general treaty signed at Paris this day, shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the space of four weeks, or sooner if possible. In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Paris, March 30, 1856. Clarendon, Cowley, A. Walewski, Bourquency, Orloff, Brunnov.

NEW MARITIME LAW.

Declaration respecting Maritime Law, signed by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, assembled in Congress at Paris, April 16, 1856. The Plenipotentiaries who signed the Treaty of Paris of the 30th of March, 1856, assembled in Conference—

Considering—

That maritime law, in time of war, has long been the subject of deplorable disputes;

That the uncertainty of the law and of the duties in such a matter, gives rise to differences of opinion between neutrals and belligerents which may occasion serious difficulties, and even conflicts;

That it is consequently advantageous to establish a uniform doctrine on so important a point;

That the Plenipotentiaries assembled in Congress at Paris cannot better respond to the intentions by which their Governments are animated, than by seeking to introduce into international relations fixed principles in this respect;

The above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorised, resolved to concert among themselves as to the means of attaining this object; and, having come to an agreement, have adopted the following solemn declaration:—

1. Privateering is, and remains, abolished.

2. The neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war.

3. Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under enemy's flag.

4. Blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective, that is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy.

The Governments of the undersigned Plenipotentiaries engaged to bring the present declaration to the knowledge of the States which have not taken part in the Congress of Paris, and to invite them to accede to it.

Convinced that the maxims which they now proclaim cannot but be received with gratitude by the whole world, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries doubt not that the efforts of their Governments to obtain the general adoption thereof will be crowned with full success.

The present declaration is not and shall not be binding, except between those Powers who have acceded, or shall accede to it.

Done at Paris, the 16th of April, 1856.

Euol-Schauenstein, Hubner, Walewski, Bourquency, Clarendon, Cowley, Manteuffel, Matzfeldt, Orloff, Brunnov, Cavour, De Villamarina, Aali, Mehmed Djemil.

RUSSIAN OFFICIAL PECULATION.—During the recent visit of the Emperor Alexander to Abo, in the Grand Duchy of Finland, a young and handsome lady, dressed in deep mourning, approached his Majesty as he was proceeding to a parade of the garrison, and presented him a petition, which he received very graciously. It subsequently transpired that the female was the widow of an officer who, for numerous frauds, had been condemned by court-martial to military degradation, and to serve as a simple soldier, but who, on the day fixed for the degradation, committed suicide, by means of poison, and that the object of her petition was to obtain the pension to which she would have been entitled if her husband had died uncondemned. The man, it appeared, was for a long time intendant of the military hospital at Abo, and he kept constantly on the list of sick the names of about eighty patients, who were deceased, drawing of course rations and medicines for them, which he appropriated to himself and disposed of; but as he could not bury them without detection, he kept the bodies in the cellars of the hospital, interring one or two at a time as new patients died, and putting the latter in their place. He was also concerned in some extensive robberies of furs. The Emperor ordered a small provision for her.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS MARY OF CAMBRIDGE.—The Hamburg correspondent of the Brussels *Independence* writes: "The news which we have received from Stockholm leaves no doubt as to the approaching marriage of Prince Oscar, second son of the King, with the Princess Mary of Cambridge. The Prince will leave almost immediately with the Queen Mother for Paris; thence he will proceed to London, to make a somewhat prolonged stay, and complete the arrangements for the projected union. The fortune of the Princess of Cambridge amounting only to about £3000 a year, it is believed at Stockholm that at the next meeting of the four chambers of the Diet the King will ask for an annual grant for his son, in order to enable that Prince to worthily sustain his rank and that of his Court. The project already excites much public attention."

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Queen has signified her intention to bestow the two vacant Garters upon Lord Palmerston and the Earl Fortescue.

It is said that Lord Cowley will be appointed British Minister at St. Petersburg; and that he will be succeeded in the French capital by Earl Stanhope.

The Czar has definitively appointed Prince Gortschakoff, recently Ambassador at Vienna, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Baron Brunnov, formerly Russian Minister to the British Court, and who, since he succeeded Count Pozzo di Borgo, had held the high post with credit and hospitality, will most likely return to this country as the Russian representative at the Court of St. James's.

The *Moniteur* announces that Count Cavour had an audience of the Emperor on Saturday last.

Her Majesty expressed to Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Dundas, when at the review of the fleet last week, her intention of granting a medal for the late Baltic campaigns.

The Queen of Prussia has proceeded to Dresden on a visit to the two Queens of Saxony, her sisters. The King did not go to Brunswick, as expected, but remains at Potsdam until her Majesty's return, when the Court will come back to Cmslottenburg for a short time prior to taking up summer quarters at Sans Souci.

It is said that Turkey will be represented at the approaching coronation of the Emperor Alexander by Reschid Pacha.

Viscount Palmerston will give a grand full dress banquet on her Majesty's birthday; but her Ladyship's Saturday réceptions will be discontinued this season in consequence of the sudden and lamented death of her eldest son, Lord Cowper.

The Prince Imperial was carried out for air and exercise by his nurse, on the 24th ult., on the terrace of the Tuileries opposite the Seine, followed by one of the sous-gouvernantes and two footmen. The Emperor accompanied the Prince as far as the gate of the terrace, and then returned to his apartments.

Prince Napoleon, it is said, is shortly to undertake a tour in the north of England, accompanied by M. Bixio, senator, Dr. Ivan, and M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire.

The French Minister of State attended in official costume at two o'clock on Monday, at the Senate, and announced the exchange of the ratifications of peace. He afterwards proceeded to the Legislative Corps, and made the same announcement.

The *Post* says that a marriage is arranged between Mr. St. Aubyn and the Lady Elizabeth Townshend, second daughter of the Marquis Townshend.

Count de Morny, in his mission to Moscow, to represent the French Court at the coronation of Alexander II., and to renew diplomatic relations between the two countries, will display unusual pomp. His suite will be exceedingly numerous, and the sum of a million francs has, it is said, been placed at his disposal to defray the expenses.

Letters from Malta state that the steam-frigate *Tribune*, having on board Lord Dalhousie, left for England on the 20th, in tow of the *Furious*, paddle-wheel frigate.

Preparations are being made in the State apartments on the first floor of the Russian Legation, at Berlin, for the reception of the Russian Empress Mother.

The Prince de Joinville, the Duke d'Aumale, and the rest of the ex-Royal family of France, were the guests of Captain Yelverton and the Marchioness of Hastings, on board the *Brunswick*, 80, at the review last week.

The Earl and Countess of Clarendon will give a series of dinner and evening parties, in the course of this month, to the members of the diplomatic body and the leaders of the *beau monde*.

M. de Fonton, Russian Ambassador at Hanover, has been nominated Ambassador at Vienna. He is at present at St. Petersburg.

The Countess of Darby will give her first evening party on Saturday next, the 10th of May, at St. James's-square.

The Countess de Montijo, mother of the Empress of the French, and the Duke and Duchess d'Alba, her brother-in-law and sister, are expected at Madrid next week, and, it is thought, will take up their residence for the fine season at Carabanchel, a country seat of the Countess.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company have voted an annuity of £5000 to the Marquis of Dalhousie, late Governor-General of India.

Marshal Pelissier paid a visit to General Luders, who returned it on the 14th ult., when the Marshal entertained him at a *déjeuner*, where the greatest cordiality prevailed.

Lady Panmure, widow of William, late Lord Panmure, who died in 1852, was married on Saturday last to Mr. Power, one of the Queen's foreign-service messengers. The marriage, which was solemnised at Fulham Church, was quite private.

The Sultan Abdul Medjid has just entered on his thirty-fourth year, having been born on the 23rd April, 1823.

General Vivian, of the Madras army, lately in command of the Anglo-Turkish Contingent, has been nominated by Government a Director of the East India Company, in the room of Mr. Leslie Melville, deceased.

His Highness Prince George of Hesse-Darmstadt, uncle to the reigning Grand Duke, died on the 17th ult., in his 76th year, of dropsy in the chest.

Mr. James Clerk Maxwell, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy at the University of Marischal College, Aberdeen.

The library of the late Professor Hermann, of Gottingen, the renowned philologist, has been purchased by the University of Prague. It consists of 11,000 volumes, of which 4000 are pamphlets.

Gavan Duffy was received on board ship on his arrival at Melbourne by seventy-five citizens, chiefly, but not exclusively, his countrymen. An address was presented to him.

Dr. Hassel, who attended M. Hinckelley to the field, has published a short necrological pamphlet, entitled "The Last Hours of Hinckelley."

The *Nottingham Journal* states that a purse, containing £1000, the result of a public subscription commenced some time ago, has been presented to Mr. Thomas Cooper, the Chartist poet.

The Melbourne papers state that Governor Macarthur has succeeded in forming a Ministry, and is consolidating the new Government to the satisfaction of the greater part of the colonists.

Mr. Alfred Bunn has taken the Leeds Gardens for three fêtes, to be given on a grand scale.

The horse which the late Colonel Yea had in the Crimea is now in possession of Lord Vivian, at Glynn, in Cornwall, and was ridden at the hunt in the neighbourhood last week.

A collection is being made at Berlin for building a synagogue at Jerusalem, for German Jews, and Baron de Manteuffel has given to it thirty gold Fredericks.

A promotion of Cardinals is spoken of as likely to take place a few days before the Corpus Christi, the Fête-Dieu in France. The persons designated to pass into the dignity of Cardinal are Mgr. Ottaviano de Medici, Mgr. Grassetti, and the nephew of Pius.

A part of the Russian army of the Caucasus is to operate this summer towards Tschetchensky, and a part of the troops of the Crimea towards Abasia.

The *Corrière Mercantile* of Genoa states that the Sardinian army is to undergo a reduction of 16,000 men.

The Austrians are working very hard with their dredging machine at the Sulina mouth of the Danube.

The Town-council of Edinburgh have resolved to memorialise Government for a share of the grant of £8000 for celebrating the peace in London by a pyrotechnic display, or for a separate grant for that purpose.

The States of the Duchy of Meiningen have declared that Jews can neither be electors, jurymen, public functionaries, advocates, nor *avoués*. The right of being elected is also refused to them.

The subscription of 45,000,000 francs, for cutting through the Isthmus of Suez was completed in three days.

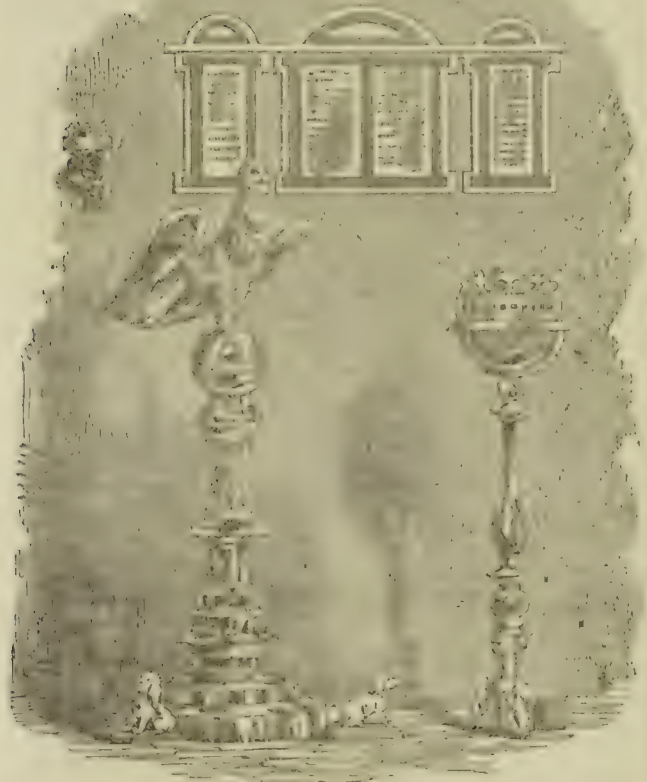
A great delegate meeting of colliers has been held at Glasgow. A motion was carried by 18 to 9 delegates, that all the colliers should be called upon to strike till the demand of 5s. a day be conceded.

At Loughborough County Court last week, a man apparently nearly sixty years of age, offered to pay a debt of £20 by 2s. a month!

The official returns of the quantity of gold exported from Victoria at the beginning of April, 1855, was 2,674,677 ounces, valued at £10,698,708; of which 2,381,170 ounces were exported to England.

Philadelphia was visited by a terrific hurricane.—Two churches, three factories, and about 150 other buildings were partially demolished. The large boiler-house of the Franklin Ironworks, 160 feet long, was totally destroyed.

RELICS OF NICHOLAS FERRAR.



Nicholas Farrer.

NOTES.

QUERIES.

WAS DEFOE THE AUTHOR OF "ROBINSON CRUSOE"?—"Mem.
 Jul. 10, 1774.—In the year 1759 I was told by the Rev. Mr. Benjamin
 Holloway, Rector of Middleton Stony, in Oxfordshire, then about seventy
 years old, and in the early part of his life domestic chaplain to Lord Sunder-
 land, that he had often heard Lord Sunderland say that Lord Oxford, while a
 prisoner in the Tower of London, wrote the first volume of the 'History of
 Robinson Crusoe,' merely as an amusement under confinement, and gave it to
 Daniel Defoe, who printed it, and sold it in the Tower, and was one
 of his pamphlet-writers; that Defoe, by Lord Oxford's permission, printed it
 as his own; and, encouraged by its extraordinary success, added himself the
 second volume, the inferiority of which is generally acknowledged. Mr.
 H. then said that he had seen the original MS. of the first volume, and
 printed the name of the Duke of Devonshire, who was then Lord Oxford's
 Chamberlain, and was the person who presented it to the Duke of Devonshire,
 an Orientalist; author of some theological tracts; bred at Eton, and a
 Master of Arts of St. John's College, Cambridge. He lived many years with
 great respect in Lord Sunderland's family, and was tutor to the late Duke of

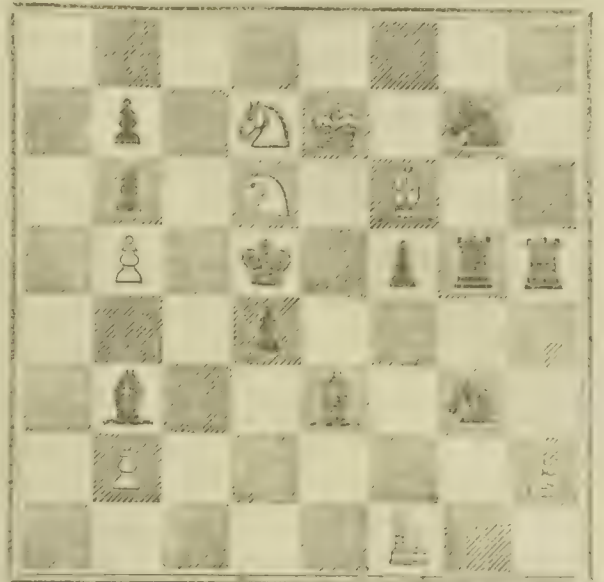
ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

MR. MACAULAY AND WILLIAM PENN.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)—Sir,—In answer to a correspondent in your "Memorabilia," April 5, I beg to say that I see no necessity for loading your columns or wasting my own time by undertaking any vindication of Macaulay's estimate of the character of Penn. The historian has pronounced his opinion, and laid his authorities before the public. To those readers who will not examine them, comment would be useless.—B. BLUNDELL, F.S.A., Temple.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[illegible]

BLACK.



CHess IN THE UNITED STATES.

(Queen's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (Mr. T. L.)	BLACK (Mr. F. P.)	WHITE (Mr. T. L.)	BLACK (Mr. F. P.)
1. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	16. Q to Q 2nd	P to K B 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P to K 3rd	17. K B to Q 3rd	Kt to Q 4th
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q B 4th	18. Q to K 3rd	Q B to Q 4th
4. P to K 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	19. K R to K R 6th	R B to Q B 7th
5. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P takes Q P	20. R R to Q Kt sq	Kt takes Q Kt P
6. K P takes P	K Kt to K B 3rd	21. K B to Q Kt 7th	B takes B
7. P to Q R 3rd	K B to K 2nd	(c)	
8. P to Q Kt 3rd	Castles	22. Q takes Kt	B takes Kt
9. K B to Q 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd	23. P takes B (d)	K R to K B 3rd (e)
10. Castles	Q B to Q Kt 2nd	24. B to Q B sq (f)	K R to K B 3rd (ch)
11. P takes P (a)	K Kt takes P	25. K to R sq	Q to K R 6th
12. Kt takes Kt	Q takes Kt	26. K R to K Kt sq	Q takes K P P
13. Q B to Q Kt 2nd	Q R to Q sq (b)	27. K B to K B 4th	K R to K R 3rd
14. Q to Q B 2nd	Q to K R 4th	28. Q R to Q Kt 2nd	Q takes R P (ch)
15. K B to K 4th	Q R to Q B sq	29. B takes Q	K R tks B—Mate.

(a) By this capture, White affords an inlet for his adversary's pieces, and becomes subjected to an attack which, manfully as he resists, proves his master in the end.
(b) Having in view the advance of his king's pawn.
(c) A clever retort.
(d) Had he taken the Rook, Black would obviously have mated him in three moves.
(e) Correctly played. The other Rook is as safe as if guarded by an army.
(f) His only resource, and that but an ineffectual one.

CHess IN NEW YORK.

MANCHESTER CHESS-CLUB.—A tournament is now in progress at the Manchester Chess-club, in which the prize will be the ivory set of chessmen recently won from the Liverpool Club. Tournaments are of two kinds; first, those in which no odds are given, and in which it is intended the strongest player shall win; and, secondly, handicap tournaments (like the present), in which odds are given, in order that players of every grade shall have an equal chance, but an advantage still remains with the strongest, as Chess-players, like the rest of the world, are not inclined to underrate their own abilities. Thirty-two players are engaged in the present tournament, and it was opened by putting their names into a bag, and then drawing two names at a time. The sixteen couples being thus matched, the players agreed to give or take odds according to their estimate of their own and their opponents' skill, and the match commenced under the following regulations:—The sixteen players who, in the first round, win three games first of their respective opponents, put the latter *hors de combat*, and, as winners, are again balloted for opponents, as in the first instance; and so on, until the fifth round, when there being only two players left, the winner carries off the prize. The following is the result of the first draw:—

Watkins r. Lawson	Densall r. Dodd
Roberts r. Cohen	Kelli r. Faulkner
Du Val r. Schlesinger	Emmett r. L. Lefthouse
Rascher r. Sartres	King r. Heinemann
Benoist r. Muhlen	Gibbs r. Watts
Kipping r. Payne	Cutley r. Goodier
J. Birch v. Pindar	Heaver r. Wood
Francis v. Barker	Dickinson v. Elton

GENERAL MOURAVIEFF.

We have noticed in our columns many—we may say nearly all—the celebrated men whose names have been brought prominently forward by the late war; but our gallery of historical portraits would not be complete without a sketch of General Mouravieff. The task, in this instance, is a pleasant one. Mouravieff is one of those heroes of the old school who may be placed by the side of Bayard, "*sans peur et sans reproche*,"—the deadly foe and the perfect gentleman. In battle we meet him—as the poet has it—

With that stern joy which warriors feel
At foemen worthy of their steel.

And, victor or vanquished, the man ever commands our respect. The name of Mouravieff is henceforth inseparably linked with that of Williams and with the fall of Kars. Whilst we are writing, Parliament is actually discussing the events in which Mouravieff, on one side, and Williams, on the other, were the principal actors. The gallant defence of Kars, and its final surrender to General Mouravieff are facts already well known to our readers. General Mouravieff was selected by the late Emperor of Russia to command the troops in Asia as well on account of his noted bravery and good generalship as from his experience on the theatre of war in that country. Mouravieff served under Paskiewitch in the campaigns of 1828 and 1829; and the ground he had to go over again was quite familiar to him. The opposition he had to meet with was, however, of a different nature.

Paskiewitch's campaigns were rapid and successful. Kars surrendered to him in a day, and the victorious Russian army planted its standards in rapid succession on the towers of Erzeroum, and even on those of the second capital of the Ottoman Empire. The war terminated with the treaty of Adrianople. In 1855 the energy and "pluck" of a handful of Englishmen kept the Russians at bay for months; and it was not till reduced by famine that the brave garrison surrendered. The capitulation of Kars to General Mouravieff is the plank upon which sinking Russia clung and saved her reputation.

We have before us all Mouravieff's despatches to his Government. We find him in June, 1855, actively employed cutting off all the supplies meant for Kars, and watching that fortress with the utmost vigilance. "From the position we occupy," he says, writing on the 25th of June, 1855, "the fortifications of Kars and the enemy's army shut up there are visible. The Turks continue to strengthen their works of defence, and are throwing up new ones on different points." In July heavy rains set in; but with unswerving perseverance we still found Mouravieff blockading Kars. This state of affairs continued till September. General Mouravieff then resolved to make a desperate attempt to carry Kars by storm. Having been informed that reinforcements were on their way from Erzeroum with a view to relieve the garrison, General Mouravieff convoked a council of war on the 27th of September. It was unanimously resolved that the heights which command Kars should be attacked on the 29th of September. The magnificent defence on that memorable day is one of the noblest records of war of which history can boast. Decimated by famine and disease, the garrison victoriously repulsed the attack. General Mouravieff, in his despatch, states his loss at 6517 men. The gallant garrison, still hoping for relief, held out. Gen. Mouravieff kept watch upon the devoted city more vigilantly than ever. At last human suffering could endure no longer, and, with a heavy heart, Williams came to terms of capitulation. And it is from this dark background of heroic suffering, and bodily and mental anguish, that the character of General Mouravieff stands forth in bright relief. On the 25th November General Williams and his aide-de-camp rode over to the Russian Camp, and the terms of capitulation



GENERAL MOURAVIEFF, THE CAPTOR OF KARS.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY WEINGARTNER, OF MOSCOW.)

were settled honourably to all. On the 28th November the fortress of Kars surrendered to Aide-de-Camp General Mouravieff, Commander-in-Chief of the detached corps in the Caucasus. The Mushir Vassif Pacha, eight other Pachas, a number of superior and subaltern officers, the whole garrison and 130 cannon, and General Williams and his staff fell into his hands. General Mouravieff ordered a repast to be given to the famished garrison; and, when the English officers were about to give up

their swords, the brave old Russian, with chivalrous courtesy, bade them keep them, observing that they well became men of such heroic bravery, such gallant officers and gentlemen. In his report to the Emperor, Gen. Mouravieff compliments the garrison on its defence.

The besieged (he says) still founded their hopes on the arrival of aid from Erzeroum. In fact, Vely Pacha, coming from Trebizond, had attempted to advance on Kars, but at each attempt he was met by General Soudon's detachment, which threatened his rear. Our patrols skirmished with these troops, keeping them in a state of alarm as far as the vicinity of Erzeroum. Meantime the provisions at Kars were diminishing; the cold weather was coming on; snow had fallen on the Saganlong; cases of death, of weakness from want of nourishment occurred in the garrison; desertion increased, and despondency became general. All these circumstances decided General Williams, who directed the defence of Kars to surrender the fortress.

It is a noble trait of Mouravieff, thus, whilst announcing his own success, to shield the reputation of his opponent. The important service rendered to Russia by General Mouravieff, which has enabled Russia to conclude a treaty of peace with some appearance of equality, has not been overlooked by the Czar, and the highest military distinctions have been conferred upon him. A glance at the third and fourth articles of the Treaty of Peace of Paris, testifies to the importance of Kars. Russia restores Kars to Turkey, and in exchange receives back Sebastopol, Balaklava, Kamiesch, Eupatoria, Kertch, Yenikale, and Kinburn.

General Mouravieff is the scion of an ancient Russian family, distinguished in literature and science, as well as in arms. The accompanying portrait is from a photograph taken shortly before the General entered upon the campaign of Asia Minor.

PRINCE ALBERT AT COLCHESTER.

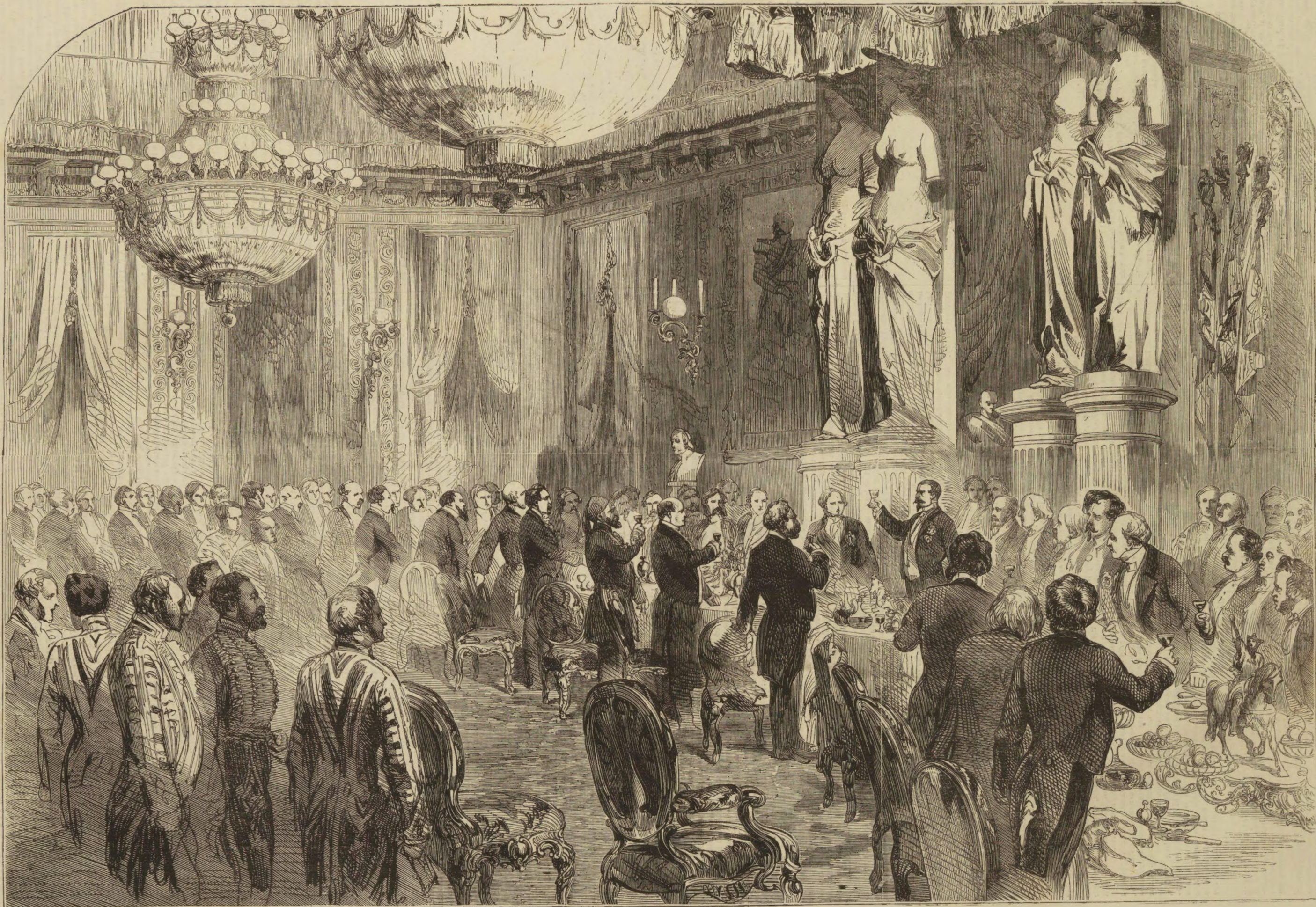
THE visit of his Royal Highness to Colchester for the purpose of inspecting the troops stationed in the Encampment there took place on the 21st ult. The streets were lined with well-dressed people, and all business was suspended. Banners and flags were also profusely displayed in all directions. His Royal Highness, who was accompanied by General Grey, Colonel Phipps, General Wetherall, and Lord Alfred Paget, was received at the station by a guard of honour furnished from the 11th Regiment, and a detachment of the West Essex Yeomanry. At the Townhall the Prince was met by the Mayor, Mr. C. G. Round (Recorder), Mr. Turner (Town Clerk), and other gentlemen. His Royal Highness having been conducted to the large room of the building, and address from the Town Council was read by the Recorder, in the presence of a numerous company, comprising the élite of the town and the district, to which his Royal Highness returned an appropriate reply.

The Prince, on leaving the Townhall, proceeded to the Camp, and was conducted over it by the Barrack-master, Sir William O'Malley, and other officers. The Camp covers a great extent of ground, and contains a church, three schoolrooms, quarters, and mess establishments for the various officers, and about 130 huts for the rank and file, together with two powder-magazines, 20 hospital huts, stables, lavatories, cooking-houses, &c. Four roads, three of them 90 feet in width, intersect the lines of buildings, and the general appearance of the Camp is airy and cheerful. The regiments of the Line lying in the Camp are the 11th and 88th, and the following Militia regiments:—The Essex Rifles, the West Suffolk, the West Essex, and the East Norfolk. The commanding officer of the whole force is Major-General Gascoigne.

Having concluded his examination of the Camp, the Prince proceeded to the business of the day—the review of the troops, who were drawn up in line in Wivenhoe Park. Major-General Gascoigne occupied the centre



VISIT OF PRINCE ALBERT TO COLCHESTER.—ARRIVAL OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS AND STAFF AT WAVENHOE PARK.



STATE BANQUET GIVEN BY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH TO THE PEACE PLENIPOTENTIARIES, AT THE TUILERIES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

of the ground, and was surrounded by his staff—Earl Jermyn, Colonel Adair, Lieut.-Colonel Herbert, Captain Hamilton, and Captain Bulwer. The regiments on the ground were commanded by the following officers: 88th, Colonel Maxwell; West Suffolk Militia, Colonel Deare; West Essex Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Brice; East Norfolk Militia, Major Sir E. Lacon, M.P.; Essex Rifles, Major Wallace. The fineness of the weather and the presence of the distinguished visitor attracted a great number of spectators. The troops, having marched past in slow and quick time, went through a series of evolutions; at the close of which the Prince briefly expressed his satisfaction to Major-General Gage-coigne.

The Prince then turned homewards. Riding slowly along the dusty road, amid the enthusiastic acclamations of the swarming mass of pedestrians, His Royal Highness reaching the railway station about three o'clock, and a special train shortly afterwards conveyed him to town.

THE BANQUET TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARIES AT THE TUILERIES.

By way of celebrating the close of the Paris Conference, a grand banquet was given by the Emperor on the 12th ult., at the Tuileries, to the members of the Congress. All the members had been invited, as well as the foreign Ministers, the Cardinals, the Ministers of the Emperor, the Marshals, the presidents of the great bodies of the State, the grand officers of the Crown, the French Ambassador at London, the Governor of the Invalides, the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, the Grand Referendary of the Senate, a number of senators, deputies, high functionaries of State, and the principal civil and military officers of the household of the Emperor. His Majesty took his seat in the middle of the table, which was laid in the form of a horse-shoe, and had on his right Lord Clarendon, and on his left Count de Buol. Prince Napoleon sat opposite the Emperor, having Count Orloff on his right, and Aali Pacha on his left. Towards the end of the dinner, the Emperor, in a firm and emphatic voice, said:—"I give a toast to the union so happily re-established among the Sovereigns. May it be durable, and it will be so if it is always founded on right, on justice, and on the true and legitimate interests of the peoples!" These words were hailed by unanimous cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" After the banquet the Emperor went into the *salon* preceding the Salle du Trône, and the meeting was kept up until ten o'clock. During dinner, the band of the Guides and the chorus-singers of the Conservatoire were present and gave instrumental and vocal *morceaux* alternately.

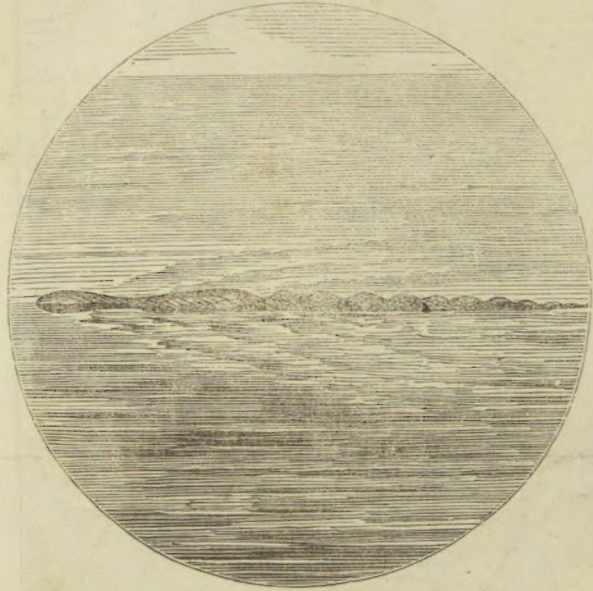
ANOTHER SEA-SERPENT.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Imogen, Channel, 15th April, 1856.

SIR.—We beg to hand you the inclosed sketch of a Sea-Serpent we had the good fortune to sight on the 30th March last.

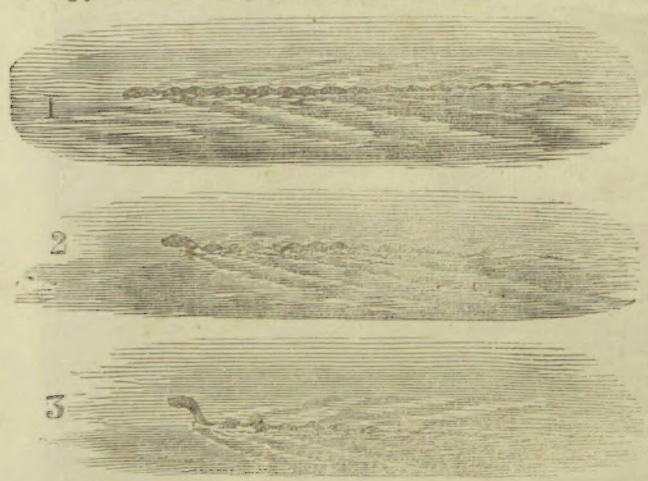
Imogen, from Alga Bay, towards London. Sunday 30th March, 1856. Lat. 29 deg. 11 min. N.; Long., 34 deg. 26 min. W.; bar. 30.50; calm and clear. Four vessels visible to southward and westward.



SEA-SERPENT, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE.

About five minutes past eleven, a.m., the helmsman drew our attention to something moving through the water, and causing a strong ripple about 400 yards distant from our starboard quarter.

In a few moments it became more distinct, presenting the appearance represented in Fig. 1, and showing an apparent length of about forty feet (above the surface of the sea), the undulations of the water extending on each side to a considerable distance in its wake. Mr. Statham immediately ascended to the maintop-sail-yard, Capt. Guy and Mr. Harries watching the animal from the deck with the telescope. After passing the ship about half-a-mile, the serpent "rounded to" and raised its head, seemingly to look at us (Fig. 2), and then steered away to the northward



(N.E.), possibly to the neighbourhood of the Western Islands, frequently lifting its head (Fig. 3). We traced its course until nearly on the horizon, from the topsail-yard, and lost sight of it from deck about 11h. 45m. a.m. No doubt remained on our minds as to its being an immense snake, as the undulations of its body were clearly perceptible, although we were unable to distinguish its eyes.

The weather being fine and the glassy surface of the sea only occasionally disturbed by slight flaws (catspaws) of wind we had a perfect opportunity of noticing its movements.

In conformity to your regulations we inclose our references, and remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

JAMES GUY, Commander,

J. H. STATHAM, JULIAN B. HARRIES, D. J. WILLIAMSON, Passengers.

The Ultramontane *Volks Zeitung* was confiscated last week for abusing the Austrian bureaucracy, and accusing it of lukewarmness in religious matters.

The colliers employed under the Ince Hall Coal and Cannel Company, at the upper, middle, and lower Patricroft coalpits, have struck work, in consequence of a proposed reduction in their wages.

The *Nord* of Brussels was seized at the Post-office the other day for having published an extract of the protocol of the sitting of the Paris Congress on the 8th ult., which contained a full report of the speech of Count Walewski on Italy, Greece, and Belgium.

According to the *Militar Zeitung*, all the Austrian companies, with the exception of those in Italy, are to be reduced to sixty men, which is just half the usual strength of a company when on a peace footing.

MR. C. ROACH SMITH'S MUSEUM OF LONDON ANTIQUITIES.

EVERYBODY who takes any interest in the history and antiquities of our country will rejoice to know that it has been at length arranged that this interesting collection of antiquities shall be transferred to the British Museum. The question as to its future destination has been for the last few months a matter of so much interest, and has been so frequently alluded to in the columns of the public press, that we think our readers have a right to expect some further account of it.

We need hardly state that Mr. Charles Roach Smith is well known not only in England, but on the Continent, as one of the ablest archaeologists of the present day. He is a native of the Isle of Wight, but upwards of twenty years ago he established himself in Lothbury (in the city of London), as a chemist, and was, we believe, making there a very profitable business. He settled in Lothbury just at the moment when the excavations for sewerage and improvement in the City were at their height, and he was soon struck with the quantity of Roman remains which were daily turning up, and with the indiscriminate destruction to which they were doomed. His attention was more particularly called to this subject when he witnessed the breaking up of tessellated pavements, and when he extracted from a cartload of rubbish some fine specimens of Roman mural fresco paintings. Regret for this lamentable destruction made Mr. Smith a collector and an antiquary. The first paper which he contributed to the Society of Antiquaries procured him the notice of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Mr. Gaze Rokewode, Mr. Hudson Gurney, and others of the leading antiquaries of that time, at whose recommendation he was elected a Fellow of the Society. Nevertheless, the course of Mr. Smith's labours were not always smooth; and he seems to have given great offence to the City authorities by the zeal with which he laboured to save the relics of former days from destruction, and to explain to the civic body that they ought not to be destroyed. Obstacles of all kinds were thrown in his way; and we have been assured that in more than one instance where a beautiful vessel of Roman Samian ware was turned up under the eyes of a person in authority over the works, he caused it to be broken to pieces, in order that Mr. Smith might not get it. But, in the earlier period of his researches Mr. Smith was made to feel his unpopularity with the civic body in a manner more affecting his personal interests. His house in Lothbury was wanted for improvements; but the locality had become important to him in his business, and he offered to forego all claim to remuneration if he might so remain still in the line of Lothbury. This reasonable request was peremptorily denied, and Mr. Roach Smith was compelled to remove without any compensation for the losses he necessarily sustained, and to establish himself in Liverpool-street, Finsbury-circus. His business was thus broken up, and he never recovered from the losses he had sustained. He persisted, however, in his archaeological labours, and managed to establish a communication with the workmen in the City excavations, by which they were induced to gather up carefully the articles of antiquarian interest which were thrown up amongst the earth and rubbish and carry them to him, from whom they were sure to receive a fair remuneration. It was in this manner that Mr. Smith gradually and through a period of more than twenty years collected the large and interesting museum, which is so well known to all interested in these researches, and which has always been thrown open so liberally to the inspection of the public.

It would not be easy to give the reader in a few words any notion of the great extent of this interesting collection, or of its variety, including almost every ordinary article of usefulness in public and domestic life which was not made of perishable materials. From a general view of it we may obtain a tolerably correct idea of what a rich and important city Roman London was, while there is hardly any department of our national archaeology on which it does not throw more or less light; for it must not be forgotten that Mr. Roach Smith, who began with the Roman remains, has collected for all periods, and that his museum extends through the Saxon, Norman, and later periods of London history. It thus presents a series of objects which speak more or less of the social habits and customs, and of the industrial life of the successive generations who have lived and died in the metropolis of Britain from the earliest period of its existence as a city, and reveals a history which is untold by the pen of the chronicler. It reveals our forefathers in their every-day life, in their houses and villas, and gives us glimpses of them in their homes, and in their costume, surrounded by the products of the arts which administered to their comforts and luxury. In fact, although collected only on one locality there is no museum in this country which contains anything like so much material for profitable study by the general antiquary. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at if Mr. Smith, besides a natural attachment to what may be called an object of his affections for so many years, was unwilling to separate from it, in the fear, in which all who appreciate such objects at all must share, that it might be eventually broken up and dispersed, and thus the labour of such a long period thrown away. Its main value consists in its collective form, for each article taken individually as a mere curiosity, loses naturally its historical importance. Moreover, when we consider the circumstances under which it was collected (and in fact under which only it could have been collected), it is quite improbable that any such collection of London antiquities can ever be made again. This circumstance itself caused uneasiness among antiquaries, who saw such a valuable museum placed in a private house, where it was never safe from the ordinary accidents of fire, &c.; and, he had often been urged to allow it to be offered for sale to one of our national institutions. The most appropriate place for its reception appeared to be the Museum of the City of London, and after that the British Museum.

During the last two or three years several considerations have led Mr. Smith to yield to the wishes of his friends; and, as the civic body continues to display the same apathy as formerly with regard to the City antiquities, it was determined to offer the collection to the great national establishment, the British Museum. It is to be regretted that the managers of the British Museum have shown, especially of late years, a very great disregard for our national antiquities, which has been shown in such cases as the rejection of the Faussett Collection, and which is, unfortunately, too apparent in the vacant or inappropriately-filled cases of the room in the Museum itself which is termed "British." At the beginning of last year Mr. Smith made a formal offer of his collection of London antiquities to the trustees of the British Museum, through Lord Lonsborough, Lord Talbot de Malahide, and Sir John Lubbock. As it was necessary to name a price, he made as near an estimation as he could of the sums of money which he had himself expended upon it, which he ascertained could not have been less than £300, and he therefore named that sum as a fair one for the purchase money. All who have been acquainted with Mr. Smith's manner of collecting, will be convinced that he did not pay more than the just value of the objects considered as articles of antiquity, so that he was giving to the nation his own labour and the result of his own knowledge during so many years, without any consideration in return. At the end of nearly three months from the time when the offer was made to the trustees, Mr. Smith received their reply, in which they merely rejected his offer, without stating any reason for doing so, though he received indirect information that it had been rejected on the recommendation of the officers of the Antiquity Department, who had set a very trifling value upon it. When this refusal was publicly known it caused a very considerable sensation throughout the whole country, and many paragraphs in London and country newspapers showed that public opinion was decidedly against the decision of the trustees of the British Museum. A petition to Parliament was immediately drawn up, which was signed by, we believe, above 300 individuals, who were all men known publicly for their acquaintance with archaeology and for their fitness to appreciate the value of this collection to the public; and this petition was presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Gladstone in the month of July last. About the same time a memorial also was sent to the Treasury, signed by thirty-five gentlemen especially known for their literary and antiquarian attainments—at the head of whom were Lords Talbot de Malahide and Lonsborough—who urgently pressed the Lords of the Treasury to purchase Mr. Smith's collection for the nation, and gave their opinion that the sum asked for it was a fair price. There is good reason for believing that the Treasury was willing to give the money, if approved by the trustees of the British Museum; but the latter still refused to buy. Meanwhile, the public feeling on the subject was becoming daily stronger, and petitions were sent to the Treasury from scientific bodies in different parts of the country, until the Treasury itself appears to have exercised some pressure on the Museum authorities. The consequence was that the officers of the Museum now made an indirect offer to Mr. Smith (by a communication from Mr. Hawkins, of the department of Antiquities in the Museum to one of Mr. Smith's friends) to reopen the negotiation, the result of which has been that he has, at length, by the advice of the friends whom he has consulted throughout the transaction, consented to accept two thousand pounds for his museum, rather than it should not be permanently deposited in the national establishment, where it may be accessible, as it has hitherto been, to all who are interested in the subject; although the fairness of Mr. Smith's own valuation has been confirmed by a regular valuation made by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson, the well-known auctioneers of antiquarian and literary property. It is much to be regretted that the directors of our national establishments should appreciate so little whatever is really na-

tional; we cannot do otherwise than rejoice that the museum of Mr. C. Roach Smith has at last found a permanent resting-place in the public establishment where, of all others, it ought to go, and we hope it will be carefully and properly arranged and kept together by itself in a prominent position.

VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PRINCE ALFRED TO MESSRS. DAY AND SON'S LITHOGRAPHIC ESTABLISHMENT.

ON Tuesday week their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, accompanied by Mr. Gibbs, Dr. Becker, and Colonel Biddulph, honoured the establishment of Messrs. Day and Son, lithographers to the Queen, with a visit, in order to inspect the various processes of the art of lithography from their commencement to their termination in the form of impressions from the hand of the printer; and more particularly with the view of seeing the progress of the many important works in chromo-lithography now being produced by this eminent firm.

On their arrival the young Princes were received by Mr. Day, who exhibited to them several original drawings which were destined to be copied on stone, amongst which were conspicuous "Simpson's Sketches from the Seat of War in the East;" Mr. Simpson himself explaining to their Royal Highnesses the various points of interest in his drawings. The Royal party then passed through the draughtsmen's room, and inspected many lithographs in progress, chiefly incidents of the late war, both naval and military, and some more peaceful subjects, the most remarkable being the drawing for the small edition of Roberts's well-known work on the "Holy Land." After glancing at the series of colossal physiological and zoological drawings produced by Messrs. Day for the Department of Science and Art they next visited the etching room, where they witnessed a lithograph from one of Simpson's sketches in the Crimea submitted to the process of etching, which they afterwards saw taken to the press and proved. After walking through the lower floors of the establishment, and observing the various works in progress at the presses, the more prominent being Roberts's "Holy Land," Simpson's "Crimea," and Bossoli's tinted views of the same locality, they were conducted to the chromo-lithographic department, and witnessed the progress of many interesting and important works: one an imitation of a richly-coloured drawing by Haghe, bearing the title of "The Happy Trio;" another a copy from an oil painting by Frith—his well-known picture of "Dolly Varden;" a copy of Sant's "Livinia;" and, lastly, Owen Jones's great work, "The Grammar of Ornament." They then paid attention to the steel and copper plate printing, and saw impressions of the popular subjects—viz., "The Slide," after Webster; "The Drive," after Landseer; "The Victory being towed into Gibraltar," by Cousins, after Stanfield; "Napoleon on the Field of Bassano," by Lewis, after Barker; and "Nelson on Board the *San Josef*," by the same artists.

During their Royal Highnesses' visit they were much interested by seeing a facsimile of the letter announcing the honour of their intended visit written and transferred to stone—a copy of which they each claimed. After spending two hours in the building, during which they paid particular attention to the various processes described by Mr. Day, apparently much gratified by what they had seen, they quitted the establishment.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

THE proclamation of peace has given the signal for a series of fêtes of all descriptions, notwithstanding which we have nothing new in the way of ball-dresses, which denotes rather a prolongation of the season than the commencement of a new one. The marriages which usually take place in spring are more numerous than hitherto, since the conclusion of peace. But to describe the splendour of these rich *corbeilles de mariage* is impossible: two waggons were hardly sufficient to carry the rich *corbeille* of Mlle. de Rigny, the bride of M. de Bearn; besides the *corbeilles* of Mlle. la Princesse Czartoryska, Mlle. de Montebello, Mlle. Leon, Mlle. de Sancy, and others.

Nevertheless, attention is turned towards the new spring modes. Bonnets are nearly the same—the *passe* is very small, the curtain very large; the long ends of the ribbons fall over the shoulders. A *modiste's* establishment has produced an invention for preventing the bonnet from falling too far back; it consists of a little imperceptible gauze fixed in the *passe* of the bonnet, and which produces the desired effect, obviating the employment of pins.

Among the bonnets we have noticed the last few days are a *chapeau à fond mon* of green taffetas sewed upon a *passe* of Italian straw, traversed by a black velvet which ties above the curtain and falls behind; roses mingled with white *tulle d'illusion* ornament the inside of the bonnet. *Chapeau* of white *tulle illusion*, blanc *coulisé*, and in each *coulisé* a *blais* of taffetas rose; on each side of the *passe* are groups of rose-coloured feathers, and on one side of the head a tuft of primroses of the same shade. *Chapeau* of lilacs and white lace, with a flower of *iris fantastique*. For little girls there are *Chapeaux Pamela*, ornamented with large knots of floating velvet, or with garden flowers of every shade. The beautiful *coiffures Peruvienne* of flowers which attracted so much attention at the Exhibition have since become quite the fashion. Their freshness and lightness render them well adapted for summer ornaments; their opaque white harmonises admirably with the *paille de riz*. Flowers and feathers will be much worn this summer. In the *corbeille* of the Margravine of Bavaria were three parasols—one with an ivory handle covered over with rose-coloured *moiré*, and again with English point lace; the second had an ebony handle, inlaid with silver, and was of sky-blue taffetas covered with a thread tissue of *velours Chinois*; the third was covered with maroon *moiré antique*, with a sprinkling of *pois d'or*. The fringe was half of maroon silk and half gold.

Among head-dresses we hear much of the *couronne Ristori*, apropos to her great success in *Medea*. This crown is composed of silk oak-leaves, shaded with red; the golden and green acorns are grouped in this foliage, and gold *liserons* form behind a sort of floating knot, that falls upon the shoulders.

Robes are worn as full as ever; the sleeves preserve their open form, and the corsages their basques, more or less long. The skirts are either quite plain, or covered by five or seven flounces reaching to the waist, but robes with the same number of flounces, only as far as the middle of the skirt, and leaving the upper part completely untrimmed, are no longer in fashion. Of the robes and *mantelets*, the patterns are not yet quite decided.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Chapeau of white taffetas, with crisped feathers upon the edge of the *passe*, the lower part of the head of *tulle illusion*, edged with narrow white blonde.

Mantelet of white muslin, embroidered upon the tour, and with wide scallops. At the head of the trimming are little silken knots. *Robe en taffetas quadrillé*, white ground with stripes of *verte d'Isly*; the skirt has five flounces, with round scallops, which are themselves trimmed with a narrow silk binding, also scalloped.

Girl.—Straw hat, the *passe* covered with a network of fine velvet. A knot of roses upon the side of the *passe*, and another above the *baivolet*, with long hanging ends. Skirt of *moiré antique*, and an over corsage, fitting closely, of black or coloured velvet, to match the skirt. The corsage is made à *bretelles*, and à *bouquet basques*; is open on both sides, but held in by a series of little jets, with which also are trimmed the edges of the basques, braces, and sleeves.

Robe of gros de Naples: the skirt has three flounces, with satin patterns upon the edges. The corsage, closed in front, is ornamented with a *ruche*, which falls to the bottom of the waist, and separates in front, to form the basques. Each point of the corsage is ornamented with a ribbon of the same kind. An *écharpe mantelet* covers the shoulders.

Chapeau of white rice-straw, trimmed with flowers. *Robe* of barège, white ground, with garlands of maroon flowers. The *corsage ajusté* is ornamented with a round basquine, the edge of which is trimmed with three fringes—*Tom Pouce* maroon matched to the shade of the flowers of the robe. The sleeve has a first flounce at the elbow, and a second a little lower trimmed with the same, as are also the five flounces that cover the skirt of the robe.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE IN GERMANY.—The states of Oldenburg have agreed to a law for the better observance of the Sabbath. According to this all out-door labour, all noisy in-door labour, and all places of public recreation, are forbidden until after the termination of morning Divine Service; that is, until about mid-day. An attempt was made to extend the restriction until after evening service, but it was rejected.

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Messrs. R. and O., the only appointed Agents in England for the sale of Ladies' Gloves manufactured from the skins of the Alpine Kid, with the registered Eugénie, La Reine, or the Bontou River fastening attached, have received their first importation of Draps Fixes, or Fixed Draps, with all the new colours for Spring, in every size, from 6½ to 8½.

One Shilling per pair. No. 1. Super quality, the most durable glove manufactured at any price.—One Shilling and Sixpence per pair.

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PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.—(SEE PAGE 486.)



VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PRINCE ALFRED TO MESSRS. DAY AND SON'S LITHOGRAPHIC ESTABLISHMENT.—(SEE PAGE 486.)